

# The Baptist Record

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## Mississippi Baptists On The Rise

# Statistics Chart Growth For 1979 In All Areas

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptists have the only state convention with increases from 1978 to 1979 in every area reported through the Uniform Church Letter.

Analysis of reports from 1,915 cooperating churches in Mississippi show gains in number of churches, total membership, baptisms, enrollment in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Church Training, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, and Music.

Increases were also reported in mission gifts, total gifts, and value of church property.

With 15,801 baptisms for 1979, as compared to 13,583 for 1978 and drops each year since 1975, Mississippi re-

ported the second highest percentage increase among Southern Baptist state conventions. Baptisms in Mississippi were up 16.3 percent, only passed by Ohio with 17 percent.

Roy Collum, state evangelism director, said he believed that the 1979 Good News Mississippi campaign did not directly contribute to the increase, "but what we did to get ready for Good News Mississippi did," he said. He noted the state had more lay witness training events and thorough, careful planning for revivals on the associational and church levels. "The shock value" of going down several years in a row, said Collum, "got our people concerned."

Chester Vaughn, program director

for Mississippi Baptists, said that most of the "old line" Southern states lost ground in Sunday School and Church Training enrollments. Mississippi increased from 332,263 to 336,607 in Sunday School and increased from 126,704 to 128,515 in Church Training.

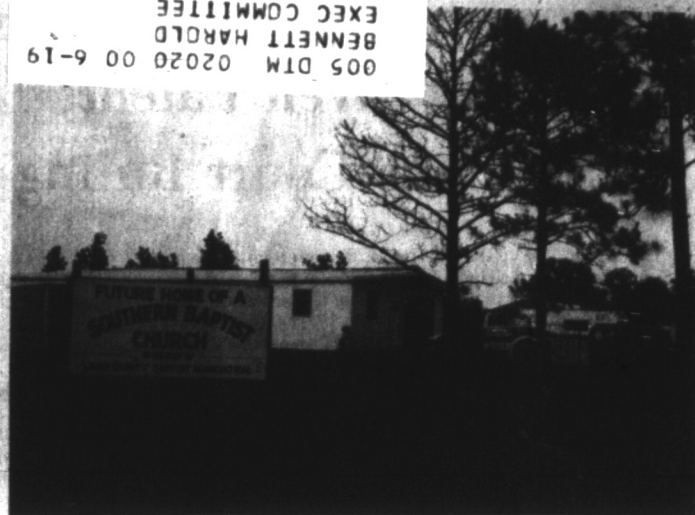
For Sunday School, the enrollment gain was 4,344, with only Texas and Louisiana gaining more with 7,339 and 5,642 respectively.

Bryant Cummings, Mississippi's Sunday School director, said the past 24 months have shown "an absolute priority of our department to growth." This growth emphasis included a number of growth conferences that attracted a total of 2,500 persons.

Vaughn said the Five Fabulous Sundays promotion was also a factor. The 1979 version tallied 6,963 enrolled in

(Continued on page 3)

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The sign tells the story.

(Clyde Williams Photo)

## Watch This Space For Church Growth

There are several ways for a church to begin. A small group of Christians can get together for Bible study and grow into needing formal organization as a church. A "church planter" can enter an unevangelized area and gather people into Bible study, later organizing a church. And the third way

is to purchase a plot of ground in an area that is being developed so that any future congregation will have facilities already at their disposal, eliminating any immediate debilitating financial needs.

This third way is the one chosen for a tract of land and a mobile chapel in Lamar County that may someday house a Southern Baptist congregation. No congregation exists yet, but Baptists in Lamar County are planning for one.

The chapel is owned by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and is used for just such purposes. It comes to its present site on Old Sumner Road (4th Street Extension) from Okahola Baptist Church in South Lamar County.

Okahola, just 24 months earlier had been the recipient of the chapel. Now the church has just dedicated its new church building. Jim Stagg is pastor. Okahola donated exterior fixtures.

The land is owned by the Lamar Association which bought 15 acres in the middle of a 580 acre tract being developed for housing. Half of that 15 acres will be deeded to the church that

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## House Panel Will Hold School Prayer Hearings

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP) — A congressional subcommittee will begin hearings in July on a proposal to remove the subject of prayer in public schools from the jurisdiction of federal courts, including the U. S. Supreme Court, Baptist Press has learned.

Reliable sources report that U. S. Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier, D-Wis., chairman of the House Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties and the Administration of Justice, told his colleagues on the panel that he will announce the hearings soon.

Kastenmeier, who opposes the removal of the school prayer controversy from federal courts, has kept the proposal, S.450, bottled up for

nearly a year and a half. Another key House opponent is Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, the parent panel to Kastenmeier's subcommittee.

Kastenmeier's hearings will likely take some of the steam out of the feverish efforts in the House to discharge the subcommittee from its jurisdiction over the bill and bring it directly to the floor for a vote, according to John W. Baker, general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee Public Affairs.

Led by Rep. Philip M. Crane, R-Ill., the discharge petition effort has gathered momentum in recent weeks, with the latest reliable count of names on the list at 177. To succeed, the discharge petition must be signed by 218 members of the House.

Some congressmen have signed the petition, Baker believes, because they feel the subcommittee should hold hearings on the issue.

Acting in April 1979, the U.S. Senate approved the measure as an amendment to a bill dealing with Supreme Court jurisdiction after Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., had it removed from another bill creating the new Department of Education.

Byrd's deft parliamentary move both insured Senate passage of the Department of Education bill and at-

tached the jurisdiction amendment to a lesser measure. It seemed to spell the end of the latest effort by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., to circumvent the Supreme Court's landmark 1962 and 1963 decisions forbidding state-sponsored prayer and Bible reading in public schools.

Helms, like Byrd, a Baptist, has long led the fight in Congress to reverse those rulings. In previous sessions of Congress, he sought unsuccessfully an amendment to the Constitution allowing "voluntary" prayer in public schools.

But supporters of the high court decisions have pointed out that the disputed rulings, decided by 8 to 1 and 9 to 0 margins, did not forbid voluntary prayer in schools, says the Washington-based Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The Southern Baptist Convention passed a new resolution on the subject at its recent St. Louis session, calling on Congress to resist all efforts to reverse the effect of the high court rulings.

In addition, the general board of the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. passed an emergency resolution in mid-June supporting the Supreme Court decisions and opposing "any attempt through legislation or other means to circumvent" those rulings.

## Peace Gun Takes Aim At Chinese Republic

By C. E. Bryant

WASHINGTON (BP) — The People's Republic of China has invited Brother's Brother Foundation, an interfaith medical group at Pittsburgh, Pa., to come to China to instruct Chinese health workers in the use of modern jet immunization techniques.

Robert A. Hingson, a Baptist deacon and founder-director of the BBF, made that announcement at the offices of the Baptist World Alliance which sponsored his round-the-world medical survey in 1958 and has helped finance immunization projects on four continents since that time.

Hingson and his colleague Thomas Welty toured China April 26-May 13, studying Chinese medicine and sharing details of preventive medicine programs. They demonstrated jet immunization techniques, and presented the Chinese health ministry with six immunization injectors as a gift from the Baptist World Alliance.

Qian Xien, the Chinese minister of health, and a group of 10 Chinese medical scientists returned Hingson's visit in June. They stopped at the Brother's Brother offices in Pittsburgh, and convened again with Hingson in association with Chinese embassy officials at Washington June 19.

The jet injector—which propels vaccine by air pressure rather than a needle—was developed by Hingson in the 1950s, and has been widely used by World Health Organization in its successful crusade eradicating smallpox from the earth.

Hingson nicknamed the pistol-shaped instrument as a "peace gun" after a youngster he met in the Philippines on his 1958 tour exclaimed, "It's not a bad gun. It makes people well. It's a pistola de la paz (pistol of peace)."

Hingson said that on his April-May trip to China he and Welty found the Chinese health ministry vitally interested in the welfare of its people,

especially children subject to contagious diseases.

"They have their own vaccines and have made good progress in the field of preventive medicine," he said.

"They are eager to add the peace gun to their arsenal, because it is capable of injecting vaccines into the flesh at a rate of 3,000 an hour. This is more than enough speed to inject every person in a fast walking line, and will be a big step forward in reaching China's large population."

Since 1977, Brother's Brother has

(Continued on page 2)

## State Education Commission Elects Billy Thames Chairman

Billy Thames, president of Copiah-Lincoln Junior Colleges with campuses at Wesson and Natchez, has been elected chairman of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Education Commission. He replaces Kermit McGregor,



Thames

McGregor, the chairman for the past two years, suffered a heart attack some months back and has since undergone open heart surgery. He is pastor of Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton and also serves on the Board of Trustees of Midwestern Seminary, in Kansas City.

Thames had been vice-chairman of the commission. The commission voted to finish the year without selecting a new vice-chairman. Fred Fowler, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Jackson, is the secretary.

During its meeting the commission heard a report from E. Harold Fisher, president of Blue Mountain College, that there is a large enrollment, 197, for the summer session there. The projection for the fall looks good, Fisher indicated. He noted a need of \$50,000 for repairs on campus buildings.

The commission voted to meet again on July 28 to hear the report of the Southern Baptist Education Commission on Clarke College.

### Youth Week At Gulfshore



Justus Upton of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, waves his puppet while Johnny Hyde, religious dramatist, Parkway Church, Jackson, gives pointers to puppeteers in puppet workshop (More Photos on page 2)

### Correction

The amendment to "church plan" legislation which is expected to allow denominational agencies to continue participation in church annuity plans, is now being referred to the Senate floor for further action.

Last week's Baptist Record inadvertently noted that the amendment is "not" being referred, when the correct word was "now."

The "Talmadge Church Plan Amendment," an addendum to the "multi-employer" pension bill S. 1076, encompasses the objectives of the Baptist Annuity Board and the Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA.

According to the Annuity Board, this legislation would significantly reduce government in-

(Continued on page 2)

## Baptist Hunger Work Now More Than A "Rumblings"

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Four Southern Baptist Convention agencies have joined forces to introduce a continuing plan to help the 134 million Southern Baptists combat world hunger.

Supported by the Foreign Mission, Home Mission and Sunday School Boards and coordinated by the Christian Life Commission, the plan includes the distribution of 40,000 world hunger packets. One packet will be sent to each Southern Baptist pastor and minister of education and to denominational leaders.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, said

the packet is designed to help Southern Baptists develop a concerted and unified response to world hunger.

"Southern Baptist response to world hunger has increased dramatically since the 1970s," he said. "Sensitivity to hunger has been growing and our gifts for hunger through the Foreign and Home Mission Boards have substantially increased."

Southern Baptist gifts to world hunger jumped from \$81,000 in 1971 to more than \$3,000,000 in 1979.

"But the hunger crisis has not abated and millions are still suffering from and dying from starvation," Valentine said. "Our progress has been small in the face of the great moral challenge of world hunger."

"We hope the plans outlined in the world hunger packet will help pastors, educational directors, and denominational workers to lead their churches in an aggressive and continuing response to world hunger," he said.

Building on the observance of World Hunger Day, set on the denominational calendar by the SBC for Aug. 6, 1980, the plan offers suggestions for a church-wide prayer service, world hunger sermons, ways to witness through hunger relief, and a seven-point plan of action for individual church members.

David Sapp, director of organization for the Christian Life Commission and coordinator of the world hunger project, said one of the primary reasons many Southern Baptists have not given adequate response to world hunger is the common feeling that one person can do very little about such an enormous problem.

"The problem is not that we do not care," Sapp explained. "It's that we do not accept responsibility. The task of ending hunger often seems to belong to someone else and to be beyond our meager ability," he said.

"The world hunger kit and the observance of World Hunger Day will provide very specific ways that every Southern Baptist can help to make a difference in the fight against world hunger," Sapp said.

Guidelines designed by the four Southern Baptist Convention agencies call for individuals to respond by praying about hunger, giving through the Foreign and Home Mission Boards to help the hungry, engaging in hunger education activities, exercising responsible Christian citizenship on behalf of the hungry, and becoming involved with hungry persons in the community.

(Continued on page 3)

## Tennessee May Aid In Upper Volta Work

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Tennessee Baptists' hunger committee is recommending that they be the first Baptist state convention to cooperate with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in a "total impact" project covering evangelism, relief and development.

If the site is approved by convention messengers this fall, the Tennessee Baptist Convention will link with the Foreign Mission Board in carrying out a project in the Sandwabo area of Upper Volta, a country in Africa's Sahel region often threatened by drought.

Starting later this fall, they plan to send 50 to 60 volunteers a year to six villages in the area around Tenkodogo, Southern Baptists' newest mission station in Upper Volta. Although the project may include building a dam to deal with the area's chronic water problems, it will also include evangelism, agricultural work, school and church construction, and training in nutrition, public health and literacy.

The world hunger committee of Tennessee Baptists approved Upper Volta as the project site after a recent fact-finding trip by committee chairman Earl C. Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., and John R. Cheyne, the Foreign Mission Board's associate consultant for relief ministries.

The Tennessee convention appointed the committee in 1978, Davis said, based on an emotional response to the hunger crisis. Charged with find-

ing a way Tennessee Baptists could become involved in solving the hunger problem, the group decided to work with the underlying causes of hunger through the Foreign Mission Board.

The Tennessee convention has committed \$500,000 for the project and the Foreign Mission Board will be asked in June to allocate \$432,900 for initiating the project, said John E. Mills, the board's secretary for West Africa. Part of the board's appropriation, he said, will be replaced by the Tennessee convention.

In addition, Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., has already donated \$20,000 to support a volunteer agriculturalist to be chosen by the board for the area. Henry Crouch, pastor of the church, is a member of the Foreign Mission Board.

By using volunteers, missionaries in Upper Volta expect to save \$1 million over what the project would cost if contractors were hired. They also expect to reap the extra benefits of the project's evangelistic phase.

The fact that the churches already in the area were started by earlier relief efforts shows what can be done when relief is tied with evangelism, said Mills. There are 19 preaching points in the area, but only three preachers. Population in the rural area totals just over 4,000.

Southern Baptists helped deliver 6,190 metric tons of grain in Upper Volta in 1978 after drought and famine brought the country to the attention of the world.



## New Life Given Patent In Supreme Court Ruling

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U. S. Supreme Court ruled here June 16 that federal patent laws extend to human-made living organisms.

By a 5-4 vote, the high court held that General Electric Co. scientist Ananda M. Chakrabarty's laboratory creation of a form of bacteria designed to break up oil spills is protected by patent laws dating to 1793.

Neither the majority opinion, written by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, nor a dissent filed by senior Justice William J. Brennan Jr. addressed the bioethical issues involved in laboratory-created life forms.

Referring to applicable patent law, Burger said the court set out simply to

determine whether Chakrabarty's microorganism constituted a "manufacture" or "composition of matter." The law declares that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter . . . may obtain a patent."

Beyond that, Burger went on, courts are "without competence" to deal with the bioethical implications of Chakrabarty's discovery.

"Whatever their validity," the chief justice declared, "the contentions now pressed on us should be addressed to the political branches of the government, the Congress and the executive, and not to the courts."



Don Lum, minister of youth and activities, First Church, Columbia, leads seminars on "What We Believe." Lum explained the general beliefs of Southern Baptists.



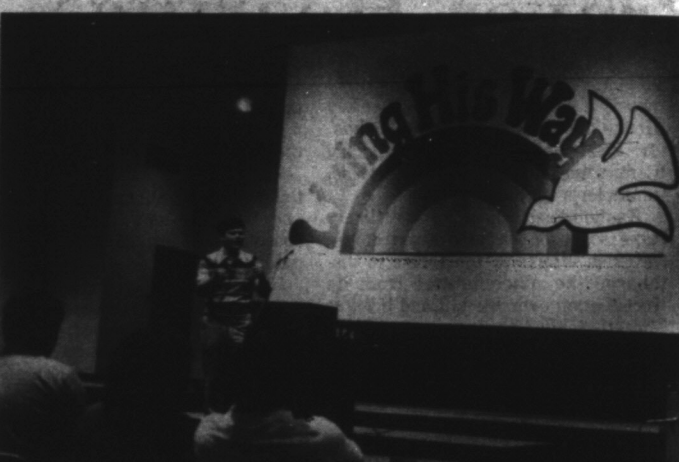
Wayne Barber, pastor of First Church, Lexington, led the worship services. Here, at left, he discusses the Bible with other Youth Week staffers. Don Lum, minister of youth and activities at First Church, Columbia; Bob Rodgers, minister of recreation and activities at First Church, Greenville; and Ron Bolen, music minister at First Church, Holly Springs.



Softball games throughout the afternoons provided fun and perspiration.

## Youth Week At Gulfshore

Over the summer, more than 3,000 teenagers will have participated in one of the youth weeks. These pictures portray typical activities.



Jim Futral, pastor of First Church, Amory, leads in Bible study.



Doug Day, minister of education, First Church, Starkville, positions actors in skit during drama workshop.

## Taylor, Freeman Committed To Being 'Unifiers' in SBC

By Toby Druin

DALLAS (BP) — The new vice presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention expressed the same sentiments after a few days of reflection on their recent elections in St. Louis — surprise that the convention chose them and a common commitment to being a unifying influence.

Evangelist Jack R. Taylor of Fort Worth was elected first vice president, winning out over six other nominees. And the man he beat in the runoff, C. Wade Freeman of Dallas, former longtime director of evangelism for Texas Baptists, was elected second vice president, topping a field of 12 for that post.

Taylor said in Dallas, where he was leading a meeting at Calvary Hill Baptist Church, Mesquite, that the response to his election had been "surprise and pleasure" on his part and that he had been congratulated from all quarters.

"I was somewhat surprised," he said. "Not often has an evangelist even been considered for the office."

He wasn't running for the office, he

explained, and didn't consent to his nomination by William A. Cook of Oklahoma until Monday afternoon before the Tuesday night election. Before giving Cook the go-ahead, Taylor had spoken to the Pastors' Conference urging "prayer, not politicking" and pointing out Southern Baptists can disagree and still love each other.

"I hope this can be a year of unifying, of bridge building," he said. "We need to major on relationships. If we are saved persons, we may be apart on doctrines and non-essentials to salvation, but we ought to seek for points of fellowship and agreement and start there instead of at our differences."

Taylor said he felt the convention elections—his and Freeman's and that of Bailey Smith of Oklahoma as president—had the "flavor" of bridge building and developing of relationships, and he hopes to foster that feeling.

Taylor was pastor of Castle Hills Baptist Church, San Antonio, for 17 years, 1957-74, building that congregation from 100 members to more than 4,000. In 1974 he formed Dimensions in

Christian Living and moved to Fort Worth. He now leads some 40 Christian life and Bible conferences and Christian growth seminars a year.

Taylor is a native of Wheeler County and is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was pastor of New Hope Baptist Church Number 3 near Ranger, Texas, before moving to San Antonio.

He is seeing signs of a spiritual awakening in America, he said, in response to "more and more desperation to see God really at work. People want to cease business as usual and get on with business as it ought to be."

He, too, hopes to be a unifying influence, "because I don't want to see a two-party system develop in the convention."

"I have never seen anything like it," Freeman, a member of First Baptist Church, Dallas, said. "I see the possibility of great men who have been leaders of our denomination being at cross purposes with each other."

"Baptists will always have their differences," he said. "We have never been accused of being unanimous on very many things, but we have not had differences that separated us. I weep when I think of the possibility of it."

Freeman is not a fisherman, he said, but his friends who are tell him that when a lake "turns over" the fish don't bite. The turmoil in the convention over inerrancy of the Bible, he said, is comparable to the "lake turning over" and he fears people will not be won to Christ.

"I am afraid the fish aren't going to bite," he said. "The energy of Bold Mission Thrust has been completely sapped over the last two years because of this disrupting force that has crept in."

The answer, he feels, is to refocus



Jennifer Orr of Zion Church, Pontotoc, is given "the brush" by Brenda Lee, also of Zion during a Christian charm course led by Amy Ashley, a student in deaf education at University of Southern Mississippi.

## Annual Singles Meet To Feature Jackson Musicians

NASHVILLE — Radio and Television Commission president Jimmy Allen will headline the annual Labor Day single adult conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

"Whole One" is the theme of the conference which is expected to draw approximately two thousand single and single-again adults.

David Matthews, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenville, S. C., will lead the Bible study sessions.

Larry Black, minister of music, Becky Payne, pianist, and the single adult ensemble, all from the First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., will

lead the music, along with Richard Brown, Nashville, organist.

Beverly Condray, professional entertainer and musician from St. Louis, Mo., will lead the late shows.

In addition to large-group sessions, many personal and spiritual growth conferences will be offered, along with conferences for leaders of new and established singles ministries.

The leadership director will be Ferris Jordan, professor of religious education at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Registration is \$22 and should be sent to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.

## Peace Gun Takes Aim

(Continued from page 1)

worked with the Baptist World Alliance, Rotary International, UNICEF and the World Health Organization in pilot projects immunizing children of selected developing nations against the prevalent diseases of measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio, tetanus, tuberculosis and typhoid. The project was tied into the United Nations' observance of The Year of the Child in 1979.

The child immunization program is the same style pilot approach Brother's Brother initiated with a

crusade against smallpox during an epidemic in Liberia in 1962. Masses of Liberians were vaccinated in town squares, at soccer stadiums, at helicopter pads in the bush and at highway roadblocks. As a result smallpox disappeared from that West African nation.

World Health Organization carried the smallpox project to other nations in Africa and Asia until WHO officials announced in October 1979 that "one of mankind's greatest scourges, smallpox, has been completely eliminated and will not return."

The immunization kits recently demonstrated to the Chinese include three styles of the gun—a medijet, a dermajet and a pedojet. They vary in capacity. Hinson also demonstrated a newly designed ice chest which will keep vaccines sufficiently cold up to five days in tropical conditions.

## Congressman Rejects Rating That I Treated Votes As Sins

WASHINGTON (EP) — The following appeared in a recent issue of Rep. Paul Simon's (D-Ill.) weekly newsletter, P.S./Washington:

"Various organizations give ratings to members of Congress and members of the state legislature, and frequently the ratings are totally meaningless. . . (An) example of the problem is a rating by 'The Christian Voice' on moral issues. Their 'moral issues' are items like whether a member voted for or against creating a Department of Education, 'no' being the morally correct vote according to them. . .

"My total on their list — out of a possible score of 100 — is zero. A Methodist minister in Congress, Rep.

Robert Edgar, got 8 percent; Rep. John Buchanan of Alabama, a Baptist minister, got only 19 percent; and Rep. Robert Drinan of Massachusetts, a Catholic priest, got a moral rating of zero. While Rep. Richard Kelly of Florida, the member who has admitted taking \$25,000 in the Abscam scandal, got a moral rating of 100 percent."

"I respect and understand those who disagree with stands I take. Sometimes I have to struggle within myself before taking a position. But I have little sympathy for those who equate their position with God's—who in a simplistic and non-scriptural way confuse both theology and politics."

## Baptists And Politics To Mix In Special Way

Motor City Southern Baptists plan to help throw out the welcome mat when delegates from across the country gather for the Republican Convention Detroit July 14-17.

Central points of hospitality will be a booth at the convention headquarters and a downtown mission center, where volunteers will provide a variety of services to the visitors, explained Larry Martin, director of missions for Greater Detroit Baptist Association.

The booth will be in slot B-13 on the third level of the Plaza Hotel in Renaissance Center—a hub of activity for some 20,000 delegates expected to attend the convention, Martin said.

The only Christian booth among more than 80 entries, it will open Saturday, July 12, at noon, he said. Volunteers will sell Bibles, New Testaments and message buttons and give away portions of scripture. They also will give delegates information about churches of various denominations in the area and provide free transportation to Southern Baptist churches on Sunday.

"Contact persons" will mingle with crowds in the headquarters and witness in the course of natural conversa-

tionally want to attract Southern Baptists and other Christians who will be among the delegates. We see this as our opportunity to contact them, tell them about Southern Baptists in the area and show them our work," he added.

Southern Baptist delegates who attend the convention may contact Detroit Southern Baptists by calling (313) 961-7780.

## Correction

(Continued from page 1)

interference and entanglement in the institutions of the Southern Baptist Convention and allow agency employees to continue participation in church plans after December 31, 1982.

Similar legislation has already been passed in the House without the amendment.

Following a vote on the Senate floor, the legislation will likely go to the Conference Committee made up of senior legislators from the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Human Resources Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, and the House Education and Labor Committee.

## Homecoming

Gulf Gardens Church, Gulfport, will observe its 24th anniversary on July 6. A covered dish lunch will be served.

Great Spirit, help me never to judge another until I have walked in his moccasins for two weeks. — Sioux Indian Prayer

### Before You Move

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Date you plan to move \_\_\_\_\_

This is only  
the  
beginning . . .

Clarke



College



# Faith Prevails Despite Tragedy In Daingerfield

By Jerilyn W. Armstrong  
DAINGERFIELD, Texas (BP) — Funeral wreaths adorned doorways and flags waved in silent tribute as this East Texas steel mill town shut down in memory of friends and loved ones.

Five funerals were held June 25 and 26 for the people who died Sunday, June 22, when Alvin Lee King III burst into First Baptist Church of Daingerfield, Texas, and sprayed the congregation with bullets.

Mary Regina Linam was buried Tuesday morning, June 25, in Dekalb, Texas, amidst 700 friends and family. The seven-year-old girl was killed instantly when one of King's bullets struck her in the back of the head.

Just three weeks before, Gina had professed her faith in Jesus Christ to Virgil Fielden, associate pastor at the Daingerfield church, and was awaiting her baptism.

"Her faith is the only way I can stand

here and offer you comfort," Fielden told the mourners.

Services for Thelma Richardson, a 78-year-old widow, were conducted in the Daingerfield church concurrently with Gina Linam's funeral in Dekalb.

That afternoon about one-third of the town's residents filled the sanctuary and the basement of First Baptist Church to pay their last respects to Kenneth Truitt, 50, the father of four and grandfather of six.

"Many reporters have asked me if this incident has altered my faith," Norman Crisp, pastor of the church, told the mourners. "My answers is that this has increased my faith in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is sufficient for all our needs."

"This tragedy has also increased my faith in people and our local churches as all have responded to our every need and joined us in prayer for our loved ones," Crisp said.

Crisp believes that the families and

church will recover from this tragic event stronger than before. "I have been impressed with the courage of the families and believe that in their common sorrow they will find the strength to sustain them."

"As a Christian I accept that God permitted this to happen for reasons known only to him but our church is claiming God's presence and comfort and he is fulfilling his promises," he said.

Fielden told the Truitt family that two months ago Ken Truitt came up to him with tears streaming down his face and said, "How come a big, hulking man like me rededicate his life in church and then does not have the courage to walk down the aisle?"

"I assured him that he didn't need to walk down the aisle because God was aware of his rededication," Fielden said.

Jim Powell, a former pastor at First Baptist Church and now the assistant to the president at Dallas Baptist College, gave the message, using the Luke 23 passage of the thief on the cross.

"Truitt was a genuine martyr just like any martyr of the New Testament," Powell added. "There was a popular song a couple of months back called 'Where Are All the Heroes?' I'll tell you where they are. They're in small communities like this one sitting on church pews."

Truitt and James Y. (Red) McDaniel were the two men who wrestled King out of the building, losing their lives in the struggle.

"These two men are our heroes who in a moment of danger had no thought for their own safety as they used their bodies as shields to protect others and died in the effort," Powell said.

Gene Gandy, 49, was the last of the four victims buried on June 25. McDaniel's services were June 26 in the afternoon. Powell said at Gandy's funeral that the only way he made it through three grilling funerals in one day was that "Gene Gandy, like the others, had accepted the Lord. If he hadn't, this would be a very dark time."

Powell told the townspeople attending the funeral services that the most difficult test of their Christian faith would be "where you put King in your mind and heart and life and how you handle your words and actions toward this man."

King, who invaded the congregation armed with automatic weapons and dressed in full battle gear, is recovering from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. He is in John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, Texas.

(Jerilyn W. Armstrong, a writer for the Texas Baptist public relations department, Dallas, traveled to Daingerfield, Texas, to cover the funerals of the victims of the June 22 slayings at First Baptist Church there.)



Pictured left to right are Libby Lancaster, Rene Gilbert, Philip McWilliams, Mary Flynn, and Bobbie Bryant.

## Five Students Are HMB Missionaries

Mississippi has five student summer missionaries appointed by the Home Mission Board.

They are Bobbie Bryant, of Henrietta, Okla., a student at East Central University, Ada, Okla.; Mary Flynn, of Commerce, Tex., a student at East Texas State University, Commerce; Philip McWilliams, of Shelby, Mo., a student at University of Missouri, Columbia; Rene Gilbert, of Tulsa, Okla., a student at Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex.; and Libby Lancaster, of Greer, S.C., a student at Baptist College at Charleston.

Misses Bryant and Flynn are working with M. C. Johnson, director of missions for Holmes, Leflore and Humphreys counties. They are doing a variety of ministries particularly around the Parchman area, including survey, backyard Bible clubs, and Vacation Bible Schools.

McWilliams is working at Percy Quin State Park, assigned to Glen Williams, director of missions for Pike Association. He is doing campfire and campground service ministries, plus coordinating local volunteer workers.

Misses Gilbert and Lancaster are at two campgrounds in Franklin County, assigned to William Wright, pastor of Bude Baptist Church.

Local room and board is taken care of by local supervisors. The HMB pays its summer missionaries \$40 per week. The state convention board provided orientation.

## Four From Mississippi Lead Clinic In Bermuda

By Anne McWilliams

Four from Mississippi were in Bermuda May 29-June 3, to lead a clinic for Vacation Bible School workers. The four were Waudine Storey, consultant, state WMU department; Margaret McArthur, children's director, First, Hattiesburg; Mrs. Ken Marler, preschool worker, First Church, Houston; and Mrs. E. M. Kee, Jr., of Woodville.

Their excursion to Bermuda was made at the request of the Foreign Mission Board. Miss Storey taught the leaders of younger children; Miss McArthur taught leaders of older children; Mrs. Marler taught the preschool workers; and Mrs. Kee taught the youth workers. Miss McArthur and Mrs. Marler are state-approved VBS workers.

The clinic was at First Baptist, one of the three churches that make up the Bermuda Baptist Fellowship, a part of the Caribbean Baptist Mission. Bob Harris of Georgia, Southern Baptist missionary, is pastor of First Church; Reginald Hill, Southern Baptist missionary from South Carolina, is pastor of the St. George Church. The other is a National Baptist church that cooperates with the Progress Baptist Convention.

While in Bermuda, two of the women stayed at the Harris' home, and two with a member of First Baptist Church. They held workshops Friday night, Saturday, and Sunday afternoon, with around 25 workers attending. They also visited the lieutenant commander of one of the two military bases, who with his wife is co-director

of the Sunday School at First Baptist Church.

Miss Storey said that First Baptist Church, which was organized by the military, now has about 200 members and St. George has about 100. Each has around 65 or 75 in Sunday School.

Since a tour ship comes in from New Orleans once a week, many tourists visit the islands, which are still popular with honeymooners. Practically every Sunday tourists visit the Baptist churches.

"On the islands of Bermuda there is no poverty," Miss Storey said, "and no unemployment. Everyone has a chance for at least a high school education."

"The cost of living," she added, "is high — twice what it is here. Gasoline was \$2.40 a gallon when we were there. English customs still exist. The speed limit is 20 miles an hour, because the roads are crooked. Residents are only allowed one car per family, due to lack of space for more. An old car must be proved unrepairable before a new one can be bought."

Bermudans — many of them Portuguese and bi-lingual — are dependent on rain water, she said. "Water tanks are sunk under the houses when they are built. All the roofs are white. Accordion-like folds in them allow rain water to drain off into the tanks."

Two of the four Mississippians took part in the tennis tournament going on at First Baptist Church. They also went swimming, and tried snorkeling. All four attended the Sunday night fellowship at the church, at which high school graduates were honored with a special cake.

## Summer Missionary Helps Revitalize City Church

Gina Pearson, a junior speech pathology major at Delta State, is in St. Louis as a BSU student summer missionary. Working in a neighborhood about five miles from the site of the Southern Baptist Convention, Gina didn't have time to visit the convention. She has been busy working in backyard Bible clubs, youth recreation, and "Big A" clubs, plus doing community survey for Harmony Baptist Church.

The church, recently revitalized, had only six members 2½ years ago when the pastor, Ken Powers, came. Now, 175 are enrolled in Sunday School.

Gina, a Eupora resident, is working for associate pastor Rick Lay, who grew up in the city.

She considers summer missions as "a growing experience." She believes, "maybe I'll get a better perspective on what I want to do (with my life)."



Gina Pearson

## Five Mississippians Featured At WMU Conference

Five Mississippians will be featured at the Woman's Missionary Union Conference, August 2-8 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, North Carolina.



Dolton and Martha Haggan

Martha and Dolton Haggan will give conference-goers an update on their work with Choctaw Indians in the Philadelphia, Mississippi area. They have worked there since 1966.

Leading conferences will be three state staff members from the Mississippi WMU office. They are Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women Consultant, Marilyn Hopkins, Baptist Young Women Consultant, and Waudine Storey, Girls in Action/Mission Friends Consultant.

## At First, Panama City

## Mississippians Will Lead Seminar For Single Adults

The First Baptist Church of Panama City, Florida, will be hosting a seminar for single adults July 11-13, according to the church's minister to single adults, Steve Odom.

Odom, a native Mississippian, announced the theme of the three-day workshop to be, "The Past I Inherit—The Future I Create."

Guiding the workshop will be Buddy Mathis of Pascagoula. Mathis has completed ten years in evangelism. Recently he expanded his ministry to include church seminars presented from a Christian perspective on the expansion of happiness, overcoming stress, and unfolding God-given human potential. A graduate of Mississippi College and the University of Southern Mississippi Graduate School

of Social Work with major emphasis in mental health and family therapy, he completed his internships at Choctaw Mental Health and Alcohol Center in Philadelphia, and Gulf Coast Mental Health Center in Gulfport. He has also worked on the staff of the Singing River Mental Health Center in Pascagoula, and co-founded The Personal Growth Center of Pascagoula where individuals, couples, and families may receive private, confidential therapy in Christian context.

Odom, also a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary, described the upcoming weekend as one of personal evaluation and encouragement with such topics as "Who I Am," "Where I Have Been," "What I Can Become Through the Liberty of Christ."

## Statistics Chart Growth

(Continued from page 1)

Mississippi Sunday Schools in a five week period.

Brotherhood rose from 22,065 to 23,321. Church music enrollment increased to 87,804 from 84,896 in 1978. And Woman's Missionary Union gained to 51,001 from 50,943.

Vaughn said he believed that with the increase of working women "a slight increase is a plus within itself." He said the increasing involvement of men in missions reflects the growth in Brotherhood, and churches are continuing to expand in music programs.

Vacation Bible School enrollment, which often feeds new members into Sunday School, rose from 139,290 to 143,309.

In the financial area, the 1,915 reporting churches received \$105,764,509 from contributors, with \$18,081,163 of

that tagged for various mission gifts. The 1978 figures were \$92,680,318, with \$15,889,656 to missions.

Value of church property rose from \$387,362,603 in 1978 to \$435,793,524 in 1979.

Vaughn pointed to the fact that Mississippi Baptists earned more study course awards than all but two state conventions.

That indicator of leadership training, plus a "good spirit of cooperation among associations," said Vaughn, and that the convention board's field staff is out on the field an increased amount of time, all add up to helping the statistics sound encouraging.

## Ramer Named To Tennessee Hospital Post

With the leasing of Lauderdale County Hospital (Ripley, Tennessee) by Baptist Memorial Hospital (Memphis), James E. Ramer has been appointed administrator of Lauderdale County Hospital. He will assume his responsibilities on July 1, 1980.

Ramer received a B.S. degree from Lambuth College where he served as President of the Student Government Association and was elected to "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." He received a master's degree in Health Administration from Washington University in St. Louis in 1977. Since graduation he has served on the administrative staff of Baptist Memorial Hospital.

A native of Jackson, Tenn. Ramer is married and has a three-month-old son.

## A "Rumbling"

(Continued from page 1)

According to Sapp, the plan encourages Southern Baptists to give their gifts to world hunger through their local churches.

"All that a church member needs to do is place the gift in an envelope and write 'hunger' on the outside and drop it in the offering plate," Sapp explained. "The church will then channel that offering through the state convention for hunger relief."

"Offerings may be designated by the individual for the hunger relief fund of either the Foreign Mission Board or the Home Mission Board or a percentage may be given to each," Sapp explained. "If the individual does not specify where the gift is to go, this decision may be made by the church or the state convention," he said.

"Whatever method is used, every penny of the contribution will actually get to the hungry," Sapp stressed.

Although distribution of the world hunger kit is limited to the 40,000 already mailed, the agencies are encouraging churches to reproduce the materials for wider distribution to church members.

## Needed: Needlepointers

Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has asked Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union to make a large (6½ by 14 ft.) historical needlepoint hanging for the Baptist Building. The Historical Commission is working with WMU in the selection of the historical items to be included. Mrs. Robert Dent, state WMU President has appointed the following committee: Mrs. Karl Hatten, Vicksburg; Mrs. W. F. Sistrunk, Jackson; Mrs. Tim Taylor, Crystal Springs; Mrs. Robert Smira, Jackson; Ethel McKeithen and Waudine Storey as consultants with Mrs. Dent and Marjean Patterson ex officio members. The chairman of the committee is Edwina Robinson.

Do not be modest! If you are a good needlepointer and could assist with this project, please let WMU know. The committee will select those who will do the needlepoint squares. The kits will be ready in March or April 1981. The work will need to be completed by July 1981.

## Two Day Care — Kindergarten Clinics Planned

Two area-wide kindergarten-day care clinics are set for Laurel and Grenada. The one-day meetings will include special interest sessions on music, art, and language, in addition to sessions on children birth through three, four and five year olds, and for administrators.

The Laurel session will be at First Baptist Church, Aug. 4. The Grenada meeting will be at First Baptist Church, Aug. 5.

Polly Morrow, preschool director, Van Winkle Church, Jackson is program coordinator.

Other program personnel include Wilma Lowe, consultant in kindergarten-day care work, Jackson; Merle Crumpton, director, day care and kindergarten program, Alta Woods Church, Jackson; and Judy Magill, preschool director, Morrison Heights Church, Clinton.

Registration begins at 9 for each session with adjournment at 3. For reservations, write Leon Emery, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Independence Day . . .

## Freedom from sin is most pressing

Freedom has become a strange concept as we contemplate the weekend of Independence Day. In the United States we find ourselves almost at the mercy of the Internal Revenue Service and other bureaucratic agencies; and overseas more than 50 of our citizens have been captives of a foreign country for more than seven months, and we don't know what to do about it.

We are almost afraid to do anything for fear the lives of the hostages (captives) will be lost or that we will set off World War III to be fought on a nuclear basis.

All over the world people continue to fight for freedom, yet there are more people who are not living in freedom than who are. So we approach our Independence Day with a spirit of pessimism, and indeed there is little about

which to be optimistic.

Yet we cannot continue to live under a cloud of pessimism. If for no other reason, to do so is contrary to the gospel that we preach. As Christians and as Southern Baptists we may not be able to free anyone politically or to help anyone escape from the influence of a bureaucratic agency; but we can help anyone who will listen escape from the grasp of sin, and that is a stronghold much more deadly than political captivity or bureaucracy.

In fact, perhaps at no time have people, burdened down as they are by loss of freedom in many areas, been more anxious than right now to hear the good news of the possibility of escape from the shackles of sin.

In these days when Freedom seems to be such an elusive factor, we must be

about the task of showing the way to freedom from the most terrible bondage of all — sin. We have made great plans for doing just that through our Bold Mission Thrust. Surely we will not be deterred in the task by pessimism over political problems.

The mandate to witness and the right of the lost to expect us to witness continue regardless of the circumstances. To fail to witness is not an option.

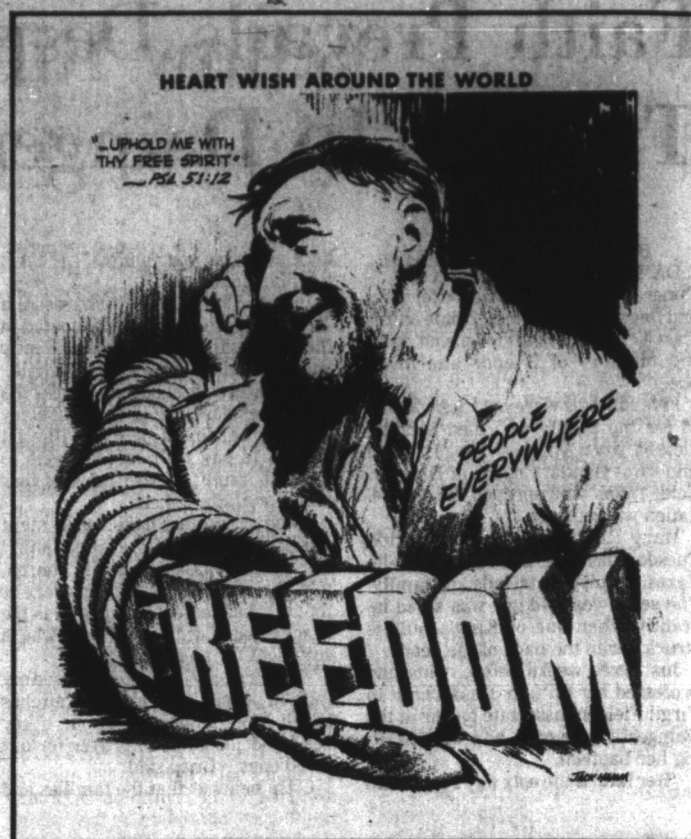
And surely on Independence Day we would pledge to our nation our best as we dedicate ourselves to helping maintain its strength, its character, and its freedom.

Along with our freedom from the clutches of sin we, here in the United States, also must be appreciative of

our political and religious freedom. We can worship in whatever way we want to wherever we want to and whenever we want to. This is surely not the case all over the world. And in spite of the tentacles of IRS, we are politically free. We must keep it that way, and the way to keep our nation free is to support it and to participate in its affairs.

Failure to go the polls because we don't like the candidates is not the answer. If we don't like what or who we are voting for, we have the freedom to work to have selections more to our liking.

It is our country, and it is going to be only as strong and as worthwhile as we make it. Involvement is a big effort, but it is the only way to prosper in a democracy.



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### The Land Of The Free

One kid wrote — or so they said on a recent TV program — "I pledge a legion to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one naked individual, under God, with liver tea and justice for all."

Sunday at church we pledged allegiance to the flag. Chill bumps popped up on my arms and tear drops trembled on my lashes as Bill Barnes sang "America the Beautiful" and directed the choir in "The Star-Spangled Banner": "O long may it wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

Once when I was on a small boat touring the harbor at Hong Kong, we saw a ship flying the United States flag. The sailors waved, and we cheered. I knew then what George Frisbie Hoar meant when he said, "I have seen the glories of art and architecture, and mountain and river; I have seen the sunset over the Jungfrau, and the full moon rise over Mont Blanc; but the fairest vision on which these eyes ever looked was the flag of my country in a foreign land."

The flag is a symbol of our freedom. During World War II Norman Rockwell did four paintings to represent the Four Freedoms: Freedom from Want; Freedom from Fear; Freedom of Religion; Freedom of Speech. Last week I was reminded of those when a copy of one of them came in the mail. "Freedom from Want" showed an old couple serving a huge turkey to a family seated around a table.

Freedom from want. I think of all the Mississippi church dinners-on-the-ground. And I think of the promising green corn fields of Iowa. Two weeks ago I was in Des Moines for a convention of the National Federation of Press Women. Iowa, I understand, is an Indian word for "beautiful land." Gold leaf glittered on the dome of the state capitol. Women, members of the Iowa Porkettes, modeled suits and coats made from pigskin, dyed in varied hues and some trimmed with lamb's wool. I feasted on roast pig at banquet and picnic. "It is a beautiful land," I thought, "and a rich land."

I'm not looking through rose-colored glasses. I know America is not free from poverty, or from fear, but in comparison with many, many nations, our food basket overflows, when theirs is near to empty.

During convention sessions I heard a lot about the First Amendment, and the responsibility of the press to dispense information about it, and to protect it.

In my hotel room one afternoon I heard a noise like rocks falling on a tin roof. I rushed to the window and saw hail bouncing off cars and other objects below. Within minutes, the street looked like it was covered with snow. In the next day's newspaper, Iowans described the hail as the size of a pea, a dime, a quarter, a grape, a marble, a

walnut, a ping pong ball, an apple, an orange, a baseball, a golf ball. The actual size was relatively unimportant, but the people's right to state their opinions about it — or anything else — was vastly important.

That First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Sunday's Parade carried an essay by Vice Admiral James Stockdale, who spent nearly eight years as a POW in Vietnam, several years in a 10' x 4' cell. I wish that every American would read that essay. Stockdale said he always thought that freedom was something in songs or political speeches, until the prison gates slammed shut behind him — "like many Americans today who take their freedom for granted."

He learned that human freedom is not the way of the world. "To be free to come and go, to choose your life's work, to go for the big bucks or selfless service, or to hit the road as a drifter — these are not open choices to most of the 4.5 billion souls on this planet."

This freedom, he said, is a treasure constantly labored for, a treasure that many have paid dearly to keep. Fifty-six men knowingly laid their lives on the line when they signed the Declaration of Independence. "Let's keep protecting that child of America," Stockdale said — "that freedom."

Quanta Triptak, a Thai friend of mine who lives in Jackson, is expecting a baby next month. "I'm glad my baby will be born in America," she said, "so he will be an American citizen."

I'm glad, too, Quanta. It's the most rare and precious gift you could give him.

*I know these things must always be  
To keep a nation strong and free:  
One is a hearthstone bright and dear  
With busy, happy loved ones near.  
One is a ready hand and hand  
To love and serve and keep the land.  
One is a firm and beaten way  
To where the people go to pray.*

—Author unknown

## Book Review

**UNDER THE GUNS IN BEIRUT** by Terry Raburn (Gospel Publishing House, paper, 160 pp., \$2.50) Terry Raburn and his wife Athena, Americans, were in Beirut while civil war raged there. Their story is a thrilling one of God's protection and provision of food, shelter, and water after sources for them necessities were cut off. They were on an evangelistic mission in the Middle East; he is now a pastor in Florida.

### Immediate attention . . .

## Talmadge amendment is needed

Legislation now pending in the United States Senate will vitally affect pension plans for many employees of Southern Baptist agencies.

According to Darold Morgan, president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, employees of church agencies such as hospitals, schools, children's homes, and "practically all other denominational workers outside of local church ministries" could lose the right

to continue to participate in the presently established annuity plans after Jan. 1, 1983, unless a measure called the Talmadge church plan amendment to multiemployer pension bill S. 1076 is passed. That amendment is now before the Senate.

Both houses have considered legislation that would affect the intent of the pension bill. It is an urgent matter, and the five representatives and two senators from Mississippi should be

contacted immediately concerning the viewpoints of those who are interested.

Because it is a matter involving the continued participation of denominational workers only, perhaps those on church staffs would feel little inclination to contact congressmen. The problem goes deeper than that, however. One facet is that there will be a continued need to provide annuity programs for denominational workers even if this amendment fails. There-

fore the entire annuity structure will be affected. The second facet is that by seeking to divide annuity programs between local churches and agencies of local churches the government has placed itself in the position, again, of trying to define a church. This, most Baptists feel, the government is not knowledgeable enough to do nor should it feel it is legally able to do. The matter needs immediate attention.

### Strange things . . .

## An embarrassing error

The Baptist Record tries to keep up as nearly as possible with the discussions on inerrancy, but the Record itself can lay no claim for such accuracy. Two errors of recent days need to be corrected.

The first was in the issue of June 5 in a story furnished by Evangelical Press. It mentioned Lowes Corp. as being one of the firms most involved in

advertising in pornographic publications. The firm should have been Loews Theatre Corp. Note the difference in spelling. The advertiser surely was not the Lowe's Lumber and Hardware company.

The Baptist Record, talked with Evangelical Press about this matter, and that agency planned no correc-

tion. Therefore, this word needs to be provided.

The other matter is perhaps the most embarrassing error of my years in journalism; though there have been many mistakes. Somehow a story two years old concerning a class reunion at Clarke College got into last week's issue. We will never know how it hap-

pened. We know it shouldn't have happened. We know also that it was not the fault of the public relations office at Clarke College.

This is one that cannot be justified. We can only say we're sorry and dig in a little deeper to try to keep such strange things from happening. —DTM

### Guest Opinion . . .

## Bold missions for Iranians — a new perspective

By R. Raymond Lloyd  
Minister, First Baptist Church  
Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Recently the Mississippi State Legislature passed, and the governor signed, an appropriations bill (Senate Bill No. 2977) which contained a section (Section 10) dealing with non-resident student tuition fees for those from countries against whom the United States of America has economic sanctions. While not specifically naming any country, it does apply particularly to the Iranian students. As a pastor in a university community, and thus interested in students in general and international students in particular, and as pastor of a congregation which is ministering to international students in a wide variety of ways, it appears that at best this bill is very questionable on both humanitarian and legal grounds.

Section 10 of the Bill reads, in part, as follows:

A nonresident student tuition fee of \$4,000 shall be paid by any student who is a nonimmigrant alien

from a nation not having diplomatic relations with the United States of America and against whom the United States of America has economic sanctions in effect at the time of registration of such student.

Such a tuition cost would make it necessary for most, if not all, Iranian students to withdraw from the state supported schools of Mississippi. The amount of \$4,000 appears to be payable per registration period, or \$4,000 for each semester, plus the same amount for each session of summer school, in addition to regular fees. This is effective with the second session of summer school.

Likewise The Iranian students, of whom there are approximately 435 in the state universities of Mississippi, would lose all assistantships and scholarships that come from state funds.

Many of the students are graduate students lacking only a few hours, some as little as 1 or 2, of completing their program of study. Much credit in a graduate program is non-transferable, and therefore lost, assuming a student cannot pay the fees.

The United States government has already established a policy whereby no Iranian visas will be renewed. This will permit a student to complete his work and then return to his country. Why should the innocent be further punished when there is already in effect a plan to curtail their enrollment in our universities, yet allow them to complete their course of study?

The approximately 77 Iranian students at Mississippi State University have not caused any problems. With the tension they are obviously under, their conduct has been most commendable. This has been true of almost all the Iranian students in Mississippi. To be sure, there was some problem at another state institution where a handful of students staged some anti-American activities last fall. The president of this university handled this in a prompt, forthright manner; and that particular group of students was expelled. There appear to have been no problems on any state campus caused by Iranian students since then. The current crop of Iranian students in Mississippi does not need to be disciplined for the actions of a small

group last fall, nor for the hostile spirit of their government.

This bill, passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor, has all the earmarks of being retaliatory in nature. Every American ought to be greatly concerned, and every Christian ought to be continuous in their prayers, for the release of the 53 American hostages. This action to drive out the Iranian students can have no positive bearing on their release. In fact, retaliation of this nature only widens the breach with Iran. The American system of justice has progressed too far to revert back to the pre-Mosaic days of the Lex Tallmois, an eye for an eye.

Some future leaders of the Iranian state may well be enrolled in the state universities of Mississippi today. Their attitude toward America, and toward Christianity, is going to be conditioned in a large measure by what happens regarding this particular issue. While we may hate and despise the hostile spirit of the Khomeini regime, he will not always be in power. Peace platforms for tomorrow need to be built, and the faltering image of America overseas, already at a rather low ebb, needs to be rebuilt; and they need to be done by us, today!

Furthermore the churches in our university centers have a marvelous opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all international students. Among the most responsive to the missionary spirit of the First Baptist Church of Starkville have been the Iranian students, many of whom attend the International Women's group of Woman's Missionary Union. One student recently was baptized into the fellowship of the congregation. Such probably could well be said of other churches in other university communities. Should we send them home, the opportunity to share the Gospel with them could well be gone for at least the present generation, perhaps for good, both here and there!

From the legal standpoint, there is some question, at least, of the authority of the Mississippi Legislature to establish fees. The following appears in the 1960-1981 General Catalogue of Mississippi State University, page 12: regarding published fees:

The University reserves the

right, subject to order of the Board of Trustees to raise, lower, or modify without notice any of the above fees for the 1980-1981 session.

Also, according to the Constitution of Mississippi, the Board of Trustees is the only body which can set the tuition fees. The legality of this is now being tested by others.

It appears that this is a humanitarian issue on which Christians could and should speak. Perhaps contact with the members of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning regarding Senate Bill No. 2977, Section 10, would be appropriate, encouraging them to challenge the legality and morality of the bill. Perhaps the prayers of God's people would be of even greater value. To challenge the action of the governing body of our great state would be a courageous act, but a humanitarian, ethical, and spiritual cause is at stake. We are called upon to be "bold" in our mission efforts. Here is one small way whereby the Baptists of Mississippi can rise up and manifest bold missions so that the Gospel of Christ can keep getting through!

## —Letters To The Editor—

### Alcohol Prevention Money

What is termed "formula grant" money is about to be written out of the Federal budget in favor of grants for more research on alcohol. For Mississippians this would mean no money for education for prevention or intervention such as is now being done in counseling and other help through the Mental Health centers, Driver's Education classes, etc. There are no state funds available for this type of service.

Most all citizens are interested in cutting federal expenses, but the proposals being made in Congress would not reduce the budget but transfer the funds to research instead of helping people now. No doubt some more research in alcohol effects would be helpful, but what we need more is to apply what we already know.

Until we can persuade our state legislators to act in this regard, we

must depend upon federal funds. If this money is cut off, all we will have left will be the "half-way houses" or rehabilitation centers. Mississippi-tax money of 3 percent on alcohol sales goes to support rehabilitation work, but not one penny is appropriated for prevention or intervention. Congress should not divert these funds to research but keep them invested in human resources. For Mississippians, this is crucial. The matter is to be settled by about August first, so your opinion today to your congressman will be very helpful at this point.

J. Clark Hensley  
Executive Director  
Mississippi Baptist  
Christian Action Commission

### Help for Handicapped

Editor:  
Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for

your telephone calls, letters, and donation in response to my recent letter concerning needs for the mentally retarded. (This anonymous donation was given to Miss Evelyn George of the Church Training Dept.)

I only hope that through my letter the Christian people will see their responsibility in this ministry. Jesus is able to meet the needs of all people. This should be our goal also.

Please continue to pray for me as I continue to find recreation, etc., and especially for a good home established for these "special ones."

Mrs. Charles S. McInnis  
404 Glen Rose Drive  
Jackson, Mississippi  
39209

I am a Bible-bigot. I follow it in all things, both great and small. — John Wesley

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# Wear A Yellow Ribbon; Pray For Others' Freedom

By Anne McWilliams  
People in Vicksburg have been seeing yellow ribbons — on light fixtures, car radio aerials, friends' lapels, and even around the trunks of oak trees.

Members of Woodlawn Baptist Church in Vicksburg have given out hundreds of yellow ribbons, as reminders to pray for the hostages in Iran, and for America as a nation.

Jimmy Sartain, minister of education at the church, initiated the project, which he calls "seed ribbon" be-



Yellow ribbons hang from light fixtures at the church entrance (above), from treetops, from car aerials, tied there by Woodlawn members.



Jimmy Sartain, education minister, pins a yellow ribbon on Fiesta McEwen, a secretary at Woodlawn Church, Vicksburg. The "seed ribbon" campaign was launched as an effort to seek answers to world crises through prayer.

## In Surinam

## Assurance of God's Will Keeps Missionaries Going

SURINAM—Southern Baptist missionaries James and Zelma Foster were so sure that God had sent them to Surinam. They were certain that they were in the right place even though the circumstances around them did not seem to support their feelings.

During the February military overthrow of the government in Surinam, the Mississippi natives noticed a tenseness and danger in their surroundings, but did not worry.

"When trouble arose and danger was encountered, it was God's prerogative to take over and establish his will," Mrs. Foster said. "Knowing that we were in God's will assured us that God was in control and therefore we had no need to worry."

She said during the takeover they were powerless to do anything for themselves. Communications were closed—they could not call out to let anyone know what was happening—

cause it uses "the greatest untapped source we have — prayer." The recipient of each ribbon is urged to "plant it and watch it grow."

The project was conceived as a one-church project, but the response to it has been tremendous. Yellow ribbons have spread to other churches and associations and even to other states. "It's like I'm in front of a big snowball!" Sartain said.

At Woodlawn the women bought yards of yellow material. Then members, all ages, took pinking shears and (the first night) cut 1200 short yellow ribbons and 2,000 long yellow ribbons. The short ones were attached to note cards explaining the "seed ribbon" project. (This was shortly before the attempt to rescue the hostages.)

The long ribbons were given out to people in all sections of Vicksburg, to be tied to car aerials or to trees and bushes in yards. Ribbons were distributed also through the 300 children who ride on the church buses. Young people gave out ribbons at highway interchanges near the city.

Sartain mailed letters to several other churches in the state, to newspapers, and to friends in other states, explaining Woodlawn's prayer project. He talked to pastors in Warren Association suggesting that a one-Sunday emphasis be made in their churches to draw attention to the idea.

Names and addresses of the hostages' families are being obtained and the church members have been encouraged to write the families to tell them they are praying for them and for the hostages.

Sartain said the concept of the "seed

ribbon" was not original with him — but that he got the idea while watching a television newscast.

"There was a town in Kansas," he said. "They were tying yellow ribbons everywhere to remember the hostages. The ribbon was synonymous with the popular tune, 'Tie A Yellow Ribbon Around the Old Oak Tree.' I couldn't get the idea out of my mind." He felt that it could be focused toward a sharing of prayer in a common search for answers to difficult problems.

One night during teachers' and officers' meeting he suggested the "seed ribbon" idea. "The Lord had been dealing with me about it," he recalls.

Sartain said that one of Woodlawn's major goals is "to become a praying church." Church Training has been studying an Equipping Center unit, "How to Pray for Others." The pastor, Jack Moore, has been preaching a series of sermons on prayer. The church had begun an intercessory prayer ministry shortly before the ribbon project began, with an answering service for telephoned prayer requests, and a log of prayer requests kept in the chapel.

"We want to be a praying church, a loving and caring church, and a witnessing church," Sartain said. "Prayer helps to unify people."

Sartain has been minister of education at Woodlawn since December, 1979. Born in Water Valley, he lived in Houston and Calhoun City while growing up. He is a graduate of Delta State University and New Orleans Seminary.

Various people volunteered to pay the cost of the ribbons that were given out. One man, a Woodlawn member, said, "I'll pay for printing all the note cards you want to print (to attach to the ribbons) no matter if it takes one dollar or a thousand dollars."

The education minister emphasized that the "seed ribbon" is not a project to promote Woodlawn but simply that "God is calling through the situations of today for His people to turn and seek His face."

A ribbon tree in the foyer served to raise the curiosity of church members, as the prayer project began.

The following note was attached to each short ribbon:

**"Seed Ribbon"  
Plant And Watch  
It Grow**

In Acts 1:14 we see very clearly that praying was a never-to-be-forgotten feature of Transformation.

Use this ribbon that it might be a reminder to us, as a concerned people, to pray daily for our local needs, the hostages in Iran, their families and the leaders of our nation.

Seeking God in lowly, tenacious, believing prayer is that which Heaven honours, and on which blessings fall. It is prayer and oneness, both together, which makes us ready to experience the big things of God.

**"SEEKING IN LOVE"**  
Woodlawn Baptist Church  
Vicksburg, Mississippi

During a community drive to round up unlicensed dogs, a policeman whistled an automobile to the curb. When its driver asked why he had been stopped, the officer pointed to the dog on the seat beside him. "Does your dog have a license?" he asked.

"Oh, no," the driver answered quickly. "He doesn't need one. I do all the driving myself."

## After-School Game Dropped, Parents Say It's 'Satanic'

HEBER CITY, Utah (EP) — The fantasy game, "Dungeons and Dragons," has been discontinued from an

after-school program for gifted students here following complaints that the game used terms from witchcraft and demonology and was anti-religious.

School officials in this predominantly Mormon farming community offered the game in January to the program for gifted students, which also included special sports, science and other activities.

Wasatch School District Superintendent Douglas Merkley said the game has been withdrawn because it "polarized" the Heber City community and was a divisive element. "We need the support of all the people in the community."

Foster, R. L. (EP) — After nine months of deliberation, state tax officials have again rejected a request by the Church of Pan for an exemption from the state's sales tax, declaring that the church is not a church at all, but a nudist camp that has "covered itself" with the trappings of a religious organization. "The mere statement by members that their activities constitute a religious or charitable enterprise does not constitute a religious or charitable activity," tax hearing officer William G. McLaughlin declared in a three-page statement.



## Alta Woods Choir Will Sing In Italy

Twenty-five members of the Single Young Adult Choir from Alta Woods Church, Jackson, will be touring Italy July 4-15. The choir will be headquartered in Rome and will sing in Rome, Naples, Trastevere, and Ostia. They will present programs to English-speaking, Italian, and Russian congregations. While in Rome, the group will be staying in the Betania Baptist conference center, operated by Bob and Flora Hollifield (Southern Baptist missionaries to Italy). The choir is under direction of Gary Anglin. Charles Myers is the pastor.

Thursday, July 3, 1980

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



## Brazilian Choir Will Sing In Jackson

O Coral Sinfonico choir, directed by missionary Fred Spann of the North Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary, Recife, Brazil, will present a concert at First Church, Jackson, at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday, July 20.

This choir is touring the United States and Canada, having been invited to participate on the program of the Baptist World Alliance in Toronto, Canada July 8-12.

One of the best-known choirs of Brazil, having sung in churches, universities, auditoriums and on TV in 16 states of that country, the Coral Sinfonico will present a program of Brazilian music beginning with early little-

known sacred compositions of sixteenth century Brazil and continuing to contemporary Christian music, including selections by Heitor Villa-Lobos and Osvaldo Lacerda, as well as compositions by professors of the music department of the seminary.

In the second part of the concert, arrangements of folklore of the northeastern Brazil region, popular Brazilian selections, as well as music from North America sung in English, will be presented. The audience will be given orientation through commentaries by Spann and by the dean of the music department, Maria de Lourdes

Nogueira, as the program develops.

The conductor, Fred Spann, Southern Baptist missionary, has served for 17 years as director of the Department of Sacred Music of the seminary and conductor of the choir. He has specialized in Brazilian music education, teaches conducting, leads conferences on choral music all over Brazil, has edited several choral collections, contributes regularly to magazines about the choral art, and has conducted works for choir and orchestra in Recife.

The public is invited to attend this presentation.

## Summer Sunday Evenings:

## Church In Your House

First Church, Gastonia, N.C., sponsors a summer program called "Church in Your House." During each of three Sunday evenings in June, worship services were held in five different homes. Couple leaders (church members) were in charge of the various services. The theme was "A Christian's Response to Crisis."

On the third of the Sunday nights of "Church In Your House," the Kader Ramsey family invited the congregation to their home for an old-fashioned family picnic and outdoor worship service. Each church family carried a well-laden picnic basket, and the church provided iced tea.

The church has a resident membership of 1205.

## Old Baptistry Is Puppet Stage

There is a new era at Ashland Church at Ashland, under the leadership of Roy Hamilton, his wife, Dean, director of children's church and the puppet ministry; and Ed Sudduth, associate pastor and minister of music, his wife, Ruth, music secretary.

The sanctuary of the old church has been made into a chapel and redecorated for use as children's church. The old baptistry is a perfect place for the puppets.

Plans have been made to pad the pews and put asbestos siding on the gable of the roof.

Among new church activities were a tape ministry for shut-ins, a jail ministry with Hamilton as chaplain, and a music ministry to Care Inn; a media Center tract ministry.

A church bus has been bought. Again this year Pastor Hamilton and 14 others will go to Michigan on a mission tour.



Left to right are Ruth Sudduth, Ed Sudduth, minister of music and associate pastor; Roy Hamilton, pastor; Dean, Tammy, and Jennifer Hamilton.

## Vance Vernon Joins AMF

Vance Vernon, who served for 27 years as a missionary in Brazil, has accepted the position as director of programs with Agricultural Missions Foundation. He and his family have moved to Tupelo, and he began work on June 1.

He is a graduate of Samford University and Southern Seminary. In addition to his service with the Southern

Baptist Foreign Mission Board, he worked five years with the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

While in Brazil, he was president of the Equatorial Baptist Brazil Mission, president of the Executive Committee of the Equatorial Brazil Mission, and president of the Executive Committee of the South Brazil Mission.

New York (EP) — The National Council of Churches is taking a lead in eliminating sexism in the Bible in reference to human beings, but feminists' pleas that God be depicted as female there have failed to gain acceptance. "Personally, I'm unwilling to monkey around with God language," declared Bruce Metzger, member of the NCC task force that prepared a report on sexism in the scripture. "I'm not prepared to cut myself off from the continual Judeo-Christian tradition and cease calling God father."

### BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

M	A	N	E	H	O	S	S	A
D	O	N	A	T	E	T	A	I
A	M	T	O	I	O	L	M	G
R	E	R	V	N	S	T	E	M
A	N	E	R	A	S	H	E	S
T	H	E	A	P	P	E	A	R
I	A	P	L	E	A	R	I	N
A	N	G	E	L	O	F	L	I
D	I	A	L	P	E	A	O	A
I	M	P	I	S	H	N	O	B
N	R	S	E	E	L	L	E	E
T	O	P	H	E	T	T	E	M
D	E	A	D	S	A	T	I	E

"We know that whosoever is born of God sineth not" (1 John 5:18).



## Riverside Dedicates Waltmon Hall

Riverside Church, Waynesboro, dedicated a new education building May 25, with T. E. Williams, a former interim pastor, bringing the message. The building has been named Waltmon Hall in honor of the pastor, M. H. Waltmon.

The 40' x 60' building contains six classrooms, two restrooms, a kitchen, and fellowship hall with central air/heat.

A considerable amount of the work was done by the church members; therefore, the building was dedicated debt free and the church has been able to increase missions giving through the Cooperative Program.

Pictured are those who gathered after the services, including three members of the Building Committee (foreground from left, DeLo Ezell, Mrs. Deborah Pippens, and Marvin Farrior. Others of the committee not pictured are Mrs. Mattie McIlwain and Ervin Stevens).



Gillis and Hamill

## WMU Director, Treasurer At 88

The smiling lady standing by her pastor, W. E. Gillis, Jr., is Mrs. Tommie Hamill of the Sturgis Baptist Church, Sturgis, Miss. At age 88 she continues faithfully to carry out the demanding responsibilities of church treasurer and WMU director.

To date, a portion of her service record is as follows: 27 years Sunday School teacher; 40 years church clerk; 50 years church treasurer; 73 years faithful church member.

The pastor stated, "Like her mother before her, Mrs. Tommie quietly works in the background in an humble supportive way. Year after year she faithfully gives her life that God be glorified. There is no way to express how much that this dear lady's humble, loving, loyalty means to Christ's church. Needless to say, the Lord and the people of Sturgis love and appreciate her very much."

He added, "How about you? Are you still faithfully serving the Lord? God is still watching Mrs. Tommie. God is still watching you."

Koudougou, Upper Volta — The Baptist Rural Training Centre, Koudougou, Upper Volta, graduated nine students this spring in its first graduation ceremony. Diplomas were awarded in biblical studies and vocational training, designed to equip them for service in their village churches as pastors or lay leaders. Southern Baptist missionary John A. Gray is director of the school.



# Improve RAs Dedicate Cabin; Name Group Thomas Thurman

Improve Church, Marion County, dedicated its Royal Ambassador cabin recently, and announced that its RA chapter is to be named for Thomas Thurman, missionary to Bangladesh. Special guests at the dedication service were Thurman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Thurman; his sister, Mrs. Betty Turnage; and her son-in-law, Michael Beasley and his two children from Silver Creek.

Jim Watts and his wife, Helen Morris Watts, donated the property on which the RA cabin was built.

The building is a log cabin, built primarily of lumber from trees on the property which were cut and dressed by the RA boys, their leader, and other members of the church and community.

The cabin is located on the banks of Graves Creek behind Improve Baptist Church and is fully equipped for camping and cooking. It is to be used in all phases of the church activities.

Following an invocation by the pastor, Bob Williams, the Thomas Thurman RA Chapter led visiting RA's in repeating the RA Pledge.

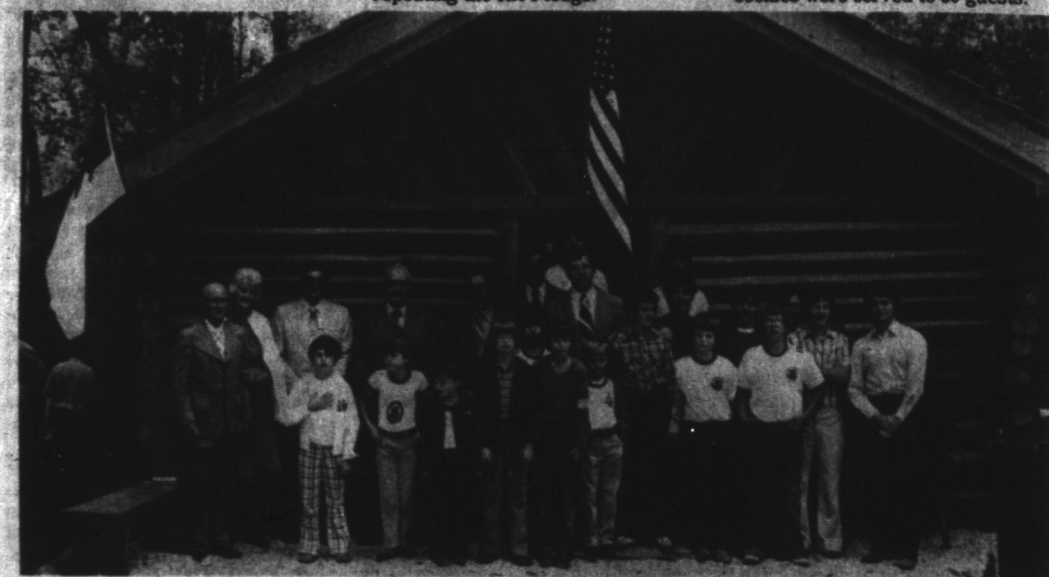
Mike Bass and Chris Lamousin played "Battle Hymn of the Republic" on trumpets.

Introductions and recognitions were made by Williams and Thomas Thurman Chapter RA leader, Coy Wayne Bell.

Area RA Leader, David Perry, pastor, Bunker Hill Church, challenged the RA's.

George Lee, tri-county associational missionary, led in a dedication prayer.

Open house was held after the dedication service. Punch, coffee and cookies were served to 80 guests.



RA CABIN at Improve was dedicated recently. Front row, left to right, Kenny Price, Bryan Williams, Allen Robbins, Jeffrey Morris, Todd Watts, Reuben McDowell, Kendall Morris, Alan Kendrick, Chip Griner, Ricky Bell, Chris Lamousin,

Mike Morris, back row, Jake Thurman, Mrs. Jake Thurman, David Perry, George Lee, Coy Wayne Bell, Doyle Robbins, Kenneth Sauls, Bob Williams, Randy Bell, Damon Watts, Bryan Montgomery, and Mike Bass.

## Revival Dates

**Indian Hills (Lee):** July 6-11; John G. Armistead, evangelist; Billy Erwin, in charge of music; Linda Spearman, pianist; Gus Garrett, pastor; Sunday afternoon service at 5; Mon.-Fri. at 7:45 p.m.

**Northeast, Meridian:** July 6-11; Johnny Parks, pastor of Second, Kosciusko, evangelist; services 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; This is the seventh anniversary for the pastor and his wife, Chris C. Cornelius and Beth. There will be a noon meal fellowship July 6 in honor of this occasion.

**Evergreen Church (Winona):** July 6-11; Alex McGrew of Jasper, Tenn., evangelist; Mike Rogers of South Louisville, music director; services each night at 7:30; Albert McMullen, pastor.

**Highland, Crystal Springs:** July 6-11; Keith Fordham, full-time evangelist from Forest Park, Ga., preaching; Hubert Greer, full-time music evangelist from Brookhaven, in charge of music; (Fordham's ministry includes his pal, Homer, ventriloquist's dummy. He uses Homer to teach Bible stories and present gospel messages for school age children and youths. Fordham also has a special program of witness training for church members.)

**Rehobeth, north of Pelahatchie:** July 13-18; Billy McKay of Belzoni, evangelist; Rick Hammarstrom, pastor; services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**Fairhaven Church, Olive Branch:** July 9-13; services at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday; 7 p.m. during week; Dillard K. Lykins, pastor, preaching; Tracy Jagers, music director at First, Horn Lake, leading the music.

**Mt. Zion Church (Lincoln):** July 13-18; Ernest Sadler, pastor, Easthaven, Brookhaven, evangelist; Ken Brooklins, minister of music, Easthaven, Brookhaven; music evangelist; services 7:30 p.m.; Mike Everett, pastor.

**Bassfield (Jeff Davis):** July 6-11; services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; during the week, 9 a.m. (except Monday) and 7:30 p.m.; Benny Jackson from Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Don Odum from Sumrall, music director.

**Corinth (Tallahatchie):** July 13-18; Cooper Barton, pastor, Hollywood Church, Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Benny Champion, music director at Corinth, in charge of music; Matthew L. Greer, pastor; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; during the week at 7:45 p.m.

**New Salem Church (Franklin):** July 13-18; Gerald Aultman, pastor Pleasant Grove, Brookhaven, evangelist; Charles Case, music evangelist; Lynn Chapman, pianist; Sunday services Sunday School 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m. with dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service at 1:30; weekday services 7:30 p.m.; Elton Barlow, supply pastor.

**Mt. Pleasant Church, West:** July 14-20; David Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, evangelist; Benny Joel McBride, music director in Shreveport, La., music evangelist; Craig Hartzog, pastor; services at 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**McBee Church (Lowndes):** July 13-18; A. R. Kirkley of West Point, evangelist; Allen G. Landers, pastor.

## Missionary News

Byron and Dora Harbin, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States (address: Rt. 6, Box 212 D, Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401). He was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala. She is the former Dora Dunkley of McLaurin, Miss.

James and Mary Slack, missionaries to the Philippines, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 7480, Airmail Exchange, Manila Int'l Airport, Philippines 3120). She was born in Poplarville, Ms.

Gerald and Glenda Davis, missionaries to the Philippines, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 7480, Airmail Exchange, Manila Int'l Airport, Philippines 3120). She was born in Marks and grew up in Batesville.

Wayne and Florence Frederick, missionaries to the French West Indies, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Boite Postal 312, 97150 Pointe a Pitre, CEDEX, Guadeloupe). He was born near Shannon, Miss. She was born in New Orleans, La., and lived there and in Edwards, Miss., while growing up.

Virgil and Gerald Riddell, missionaries to Chile, have arrived in the

States for furlough and retirement, effective, Nov. 1, 1980. (address: c/o Jerry Riddell, 11505 Oak View, Austin, Texas 78759). A Texan, he was born in Caddo. The former Virgil Therrell of Mississippi, she was born in Meridian but moved to Ellisville as a teen-ager. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1944.

Van and Sarah Williams, missionaries to India, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 383 Upper Palace Orchards, Bangalore 560 080, India). He was born in Columbus, Miss. The former Sarah McGlamery, she was born in Houston, Texas, and lived in Barranquilla, Colombia, where her parents were missionaries, and Ripley, Miss.

Steven and Mianie Hicks, Baptist representatives to Mexico, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mrs. L. M. Greer, Rt. 3, Box 424, Poplarville, Miss. 39470).

Virgil and Amy Cooper, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Florida Baptist Convention, 1230 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, Fla. 32207). Born in Water Valley, Miss., he also lived in Aliceville, Ala., and Vicksburg, Miss.

## Centerville Hears Country Sonshine

Country Sonshine, the children's choir at Crystal Springs Church, Waltham County, presented a concert at Centerville Church on Sunday night, June 22, under the leadership of Mary Jane Stogner, choir director, and Brad Johnson, minister of music.

Some selections were accompanied by guitar and tambourine, others by piano. Kathy Morris was the pianist.

Readers were Todd Sumrall, Michael Stogner, Chris Lee, Brandi Alexander, Susan Smith, Kelvin Sumrall, Christy Shappley, Chris Pigott, and Janet Alexander. Soloists were Cathy Barlow, Michael Stogner, and Debra Stogner. An ensemble (Janet Alexander, Susan Smith, Christy Shappley and Janet Stogner) sang "Alleluia."

Others on program were Joan Remley, Todd Sumrall, Jennifer Lee, Bill Martin, Tommy Stogner, William Morris, Pam Toney, Shane Sumrall, Justin Thomas, Janet Stogner, Chris Ingram, and Jerry Brewer.

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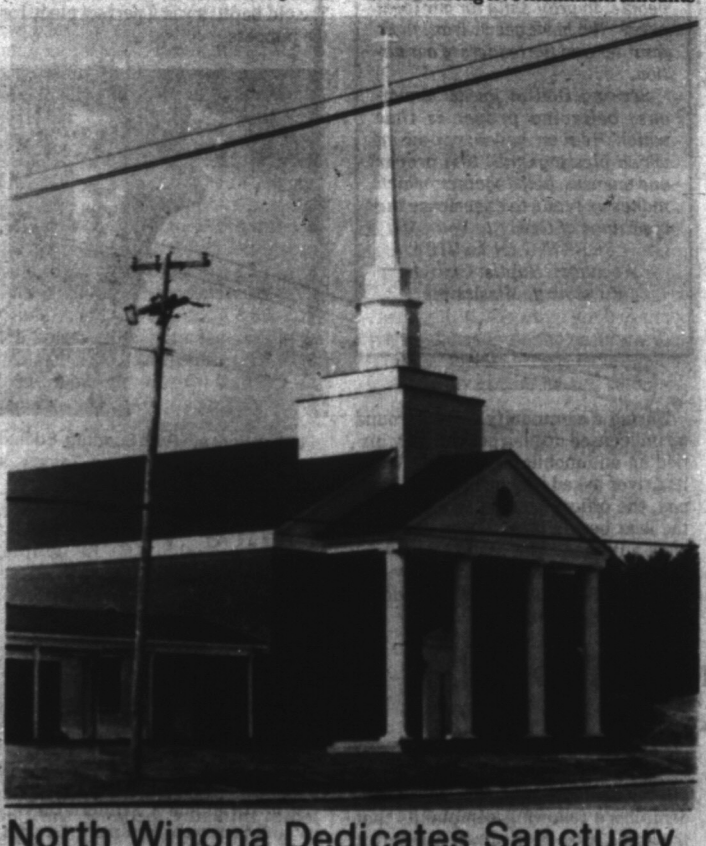
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MORNING WORSHIP: 9:30 and 11:00 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:30 AM  
CHURCH TRAINING: 5:45 PM  
EVENING WORSHIP: 7:00 PM  
**WEDNESDAY**  
FELLOWSHIP DINNER: 5:00 PM  
PRAYER SERVICE: 6:30 PM

**Bible Puzzle**  
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**ACROSS**

- Fifteen shekels (Exod. 45:12)
- Creek mountain
- Priest
- Twelve (Lev. 22:30)
- Before noon: abbr.
- King (2 Sam. 8:9)
- Salamander-like amphibian
- Germanium: symbol
- Summer TV fare
- "— with the fine flour" (Exod. 46)
- City (1 Chron. 6:70)
- Burnt residue
- Hated one (Mal. 1:3)
- "until — of our Lord" (1 Tim. 6)
- Man (1 Chron. 7:12)
- Priest: abbr.
- "transformed into an —" (2 Cor. 11)
- Phone part
- Legume
- Hawaiian island
- Mischievous
- They held their peace (Job 29:10)
- Near: abbr.
- View
- Old cloth measure
- Bill of Exchange: abbr.
- "In a —" (1 Cor. 15:52)
- Article
- "of the divine —" (2 Pet. 1)
- Harrow's rival
- "He said, —" (John 9:17)
- Heraldic border
- Boil gently
- Stibium: abbr.
- Sea
- One of five (1 Chron. 2:6)
- "and —" (2 Ki. 23:5)
- Rev's son (Gen. 11:20)
- Salty effluence on the Ganges
- Greek letter
- Species: abbr.
- Be sick
- Mohammed's adopted son
- In the meantime: L., abbr.
- Mighty hunter (Gen. 10:9)
- Space
- "doth rest on —" (2 Ki. 2:15)
- Iron: symbol
- Stemmed drinking vessel
- Man's nickname
- Ancient Egyptian city
- Employed
- Sower's seed
- Tree genus
- Hebrew letter
- Pronoun

**CRYPTOVERSE**  
T I EHUT OKCO TEUQUISIV NO  
OUVH UY AUZ QNHIOK RUO  
Today's Cryptoverse clue: V equals R. Answers on page 5.



## North Winona Dedicates Sanctuary

Dedication services were held June 8 at North Winona Church, Montgomery Association, for the dedication of a new sanctuary. The building is a modified colonial with a seating capacity of 550. The church entered the Together We Build Program, exceeded its goal, and has been having two worship hours each Sunday morning for the past three years.



Pictured with the pastor, Eugene Barnett, are two former pastors, Cornell Daughtry and Leon Ballard, and C. B. Hamlet, who was pastor of First Church, Winona when North Winona was begun as a mission.

We have all of us sufficient fortitude to bear the misfortunes of others. — La Rochefoucauld.

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# Radio-Television Commission Now Offers High-Quality Sound System

FORT WORTH — Average-sized churches that want to broadcast but feel they can't afford the equipment can now get a high-quality sound system for less than half the price of larger models with similar capabilities.

The Mark Ten Sound System, designed by the broadcast engineering department of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, costs \$17,133 for church auditoriums seating up to 550 and \$18,943 for auditoriums seating up to 1,000.

"This high-quality, no frills, basic starter sound system produces the professional broadcasting sound of systems costing \$35,000 or more," said Eldon K. Sparrow, vice president of broadcast engineering for the Radio-Television Commission. "In designing it we paid very careful attention to the cost value of every component."

The Mark Ten comes with 11 microphones, 15 assorted inputs and has a

speaker system custom designed for each auditorium. The speakers and electronic components are manufactured by Altec, recognized as the industry leader in commercial sound equipment.

The speaker system includes a foldback system which enables the talent (talker or singer) to hear himself with the same loudness and quality of sound heard throughout the auditorium.

The dynamic range of the Mark Ten system allows the talent to go from a whisper to a shout without distortion.

Another feature of the Mark Ten is that the controls regulating the sound within the church, and the program on-the-air, are separate. This enables the house system operator and the broadcast system operator to mix the best sound for their particular audiences.

"The philosophy of design of this system is to create the illusion in the church auditorium that the listener

hears the talker or singer as though he were only four feet away. This provides the maximum impact for the listener and establishes a feeling of communication with the talent," Sparrow explained.

"The object of broadcasting with this system is to let the listener at home feel he is in the church with the congregation."

The Mark Ten is versatile in that it can be expanded or modified to meet a church's changing needs.

"Even without the other advantages, this versatility makes the Mark Ten perfect for growing churches," Sparrow said. "Several churches have purchased the system based on its flexibility, excellent quality and price range within their budget," he added.

Church representatives interested in the Mark Ten broadcasting/sound system can contact Eldon K. Sparrow, vice president of broadcast engineering, Radio-Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas.

## Names In The News...

Van East, Jr., member of First Church, Amory, was awarded the Good Shepherd Award recently in New Orleans at the national meeting of the Boy Scouts of America. The award is given by the Association of Baptists for Scouting to adult Baptist scouters for outstanding service to youth. Only 200 of the 121,000 scouters who are Baptists in America have received this honor. East is the 5th Mississippian to receive the award.

East, an Amory pharmacist and owner of East Drugs, has given 16 years as an adult scouter in all aspects of scouting. He has served as Explorer Post Advisor, Assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster, and is presently Webelos Den Leader, Chairman of Pushmataha Association of Baptists for Scouting, and serves on the Executive Committee of the Pushmataha area council.

Delton M. Beall, native of Jackson, will receive the Minister of Divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. Beall has served as pastor of Plave Church, Green County, Miss., and Forrester Church, Forre-

ton, Tex. He is now pastor of First Baptist Church, Blue Ridge, Tex. He and his wife, the former Jeannie Walters, have a daughter, Nicole, age three months.

Arthur Blessitt, evangelist from Mississippi, was pictured in a recent issue of the Baptist Times, published



The members of Oakland Church, Corinth, recently presented their pastor, Timothy Vinson, with a trip to the Holy Land in recognition of his five years as pastor of the church. Shown making the presentation to Vinson (center) and his wife, Rose Vinson, is Travis Little, chairman of the Anniversary Committee.

in London. In the photo he was carrying a 90-lb. cross, on the way by foot from Jerusalem to Cairo. He was invited to walk through Lebanon before he returned to Britain for a series of nationwide gatherings in June and July. Since 1969 he has carried the cross through 47 countries, covering 17,500 miles.

## Staff Changes



The Fords

Ralph Ford has resigned as minister of music at the Goodyear Baptist Church, Picayune, to enter the field of evangelism with his wife Sandra. The Fords began their singing career by singing a duet in their home church when Sandra was twelve and Ralph was fourteen. The Fords are available for concerts and worship services. Their address is: Ralph and Sandra Ford, Route 1 Box 209A, Poplarville, Miss. 39470, (601) 772-8352.

Jimmy Westmoreland has joined the staff of First Church, Aberdeen, as summer youth activities' director. He is a junior at Oklahoma Baptist University. He plans to go into youth work and perhaps into foreign missions.

He is the son of James and Wynema Westmoreland, missionaries to the Republic of South Africa. His parents were serving in Rhodesia at the time of Jimmy's birth, and he lived in Rhodesia all his life except during furlough years. He arrived in the United States in 1977 to continue his education. Ferrell O. Cork, Jr. is pastor of First, Aberdeen.

### Watch This Space

(Continued from page 1)

develops there. The other half will be a recreation site for tent camping and picnics.

As for the church, "We don't even have a name for it yet," said foster missionary, Ray Grissett, of the convention board's Cooperative Missions staff.

This summer, the association plans to utilize the chapel with Bible fellowship meetings, and a meeting of the pastors' conference.

In mid-August volunteers will conduct a survey of the area. Already Grissett estimates there are more than 100 unchurched families in the immediate area.

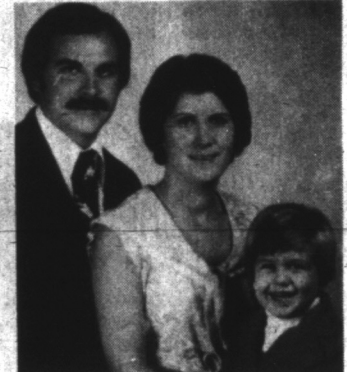
Bob Parker, a Purvis dentist, is associational missions committee chairman. James Yates, pastor of Bellevue Church, is moderator.

Mark Hamilton is new minister of music at Shady Grove Church, Hazlehurst. A native of Wesson, he is a graduate of Co-Lin Junior College and is now a senior majoring in church music at Mississippi College. Ronnie Burch is pastor.

The New Hope Church in Lawrence County has called Steve Jordan as summer activities director and assistant pastor. A junior at Mississippi College majoring in Bible, Jordan has done supply work in several churches in the state and goes to New Hope from the Crossgate Baptist Church in Rankin County where he was director of children's work. Drew Blanton is New Hope pastor.

Pleasant Hill (Greene) has called B. J. Hudson as pastor. He is a native of Lucedale and attended Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., for one and one-half years before transferring to William Carey. He was graduated from William Carey in May of 1980.

He and his wife Bea have four children, Jo Anna, Barbara, Robert, and Scotty. Their home is in Petal.



The Wards

Barry C. Ward has accepted the pastorate of Mount Comfort Church, Bruce. He is a native of Florida and is married to the former Renee Potter of Bentonla. Their son Clay is four.

Ward earned the A.A. degree from Clarke College and plans to continue his studies at Blue Mountain College. He served churches in Arizona and Mississippi before moving to Bruce.

## Tinsley Will Dedicate New House On 35th Anniversary

Tinsley Church will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Sunday, July 13, with homecoming day, and dedication of a new pastorage. Lewis Gooch, former pastor, will preach, and Patti Petri, the former Patti Gooch, will play the piano for the morning session that will begin at 10:30.



Robert and Thomas Winn

### Brothers Ordained

Robert Stanley Winn and Thomas Earl Winn, brothers, have been ordained into the gospel ministry by Highland Church, Laurel.

The two are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis E. Winn, Jr., of Laurel, and the grandsons of Mrs. Lewis Winn, Sr. and the late Lewis Winn, Mrs. Ford Graves and the late Ford Graves.

They are graduates of Watkins High School. Robert was in the U. S. Air Force for four years and is a 1980 graduate of William Carey College where he majored in Music. He is on the staff at First Church, Taylorsville, as minister of music and youth. He is married to the former Wendy Glenn and they have one daughter, Kaleigh.

Thomas was graduated from Clarke College and the University of Southern Mississippi with a D.M. degree. He is a student at New Orleans Seminary and is also on the staff of Pleasant Grove Church in Wayne County as minister of music and youth. He is married to the former Lawanda Wells.

### Prayer Room Is

### Named For Mrs.

### Pittman, 103

Crystal Springs Church, Walthall County, honored its oldest citizen, Mrs. Adrian Pittman, age 103, on Sunday, June 22. Mrs. Pittman was present for the occasion, as the church dedicated a prayer room named for her.

The prayer room was furnished and decorated by Mrs. Pittman's sons, Henry and Joe Pittman. Jerry Barlow, the Crystal Springs pastor, in union with the congregation, read the dedication message. James W. Harris, senior deacon, offered the dedicatory prayer.

Dinner will be served at the church at 12.

The afternoon service will feature the dedication of the pastor's home. Leslie Hicks, pastor, will speak. David Chisom, chairman of deacons, will lead the dedicatory prayer.

The morning offering will go to the building fund.

## THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM  
**Baptist Children's Village**  
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

### Student Summer Missionaries

The Children's Village is fortunate and blessed again this summer by the service of committed young Christians, assigned to our ministry as student, summer missionaries. For several years past, the Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, under the leadership of Director Jerry Merriman and his Assistant, Lloyd Luncford have worked with Annette Hitt, The Village's Christian Education Director, in designating college young people to our child care agency, carefully screened and chosen from volunteers for Baptist Missions. Thus, child care at The Village is again recognized as a legitimate and significant mission field, and we are grateful.

This year, we have been favored with the assignment of four different young missionaries, including Dianne Dunlap and Marilyn Parks from New

Albany, Gail Griffin from Olive Branch and Cyndie Beech from Overt. Miss Griffin and Miss Dunlap are living on our Jackson Campus while Miss Parks and Miss Beech serve in North Mississippi, living on our Farrow Manor Campus. During their tour of duty with us, the student missionaries reside in cottage life with Village children, and in every respect, become a part of daily campus life.

In Bible study groups, in supervision of recreational activities, and most importantly, in being available to Village children and young people for individual counseling, emotional attention and "just listening", these superior young people play a vital role in our continuing effort to offer compassionate, Christian service to every area of need in the troubled lives of children who are our responsibility.



Lucedale Youth lead Village children in puppet demonstration.

### A Visit From The Youth Of Lucedale

The Baptist Children's Village, and the work of our Jackson Campus in particular, was chosen by young people from First Baptist Church in Lucedale, as their mission project for the summer. On Monday, June 23, twelve young people and three adults from the church arrived in Jackson, remaining until Thursday afternoon of that week. They lived in the cottages with our children, conducted Bible studies, led in prayer meetings and arranged periods of fellowship and fun time, throughout the week. On Wednesday afternoon, a special treat for children, ages 4-11 was included, with a trip to Jackson's Zoo and lunch at McDonalds. The entire trip and week of activities was arranged through

Annette Hitt, The Village's Christian Education Director, by Steve Nichols, Youth Director at the church, assisted by Brenda and Ed Price, lay-leaders with youth at First Baptist Church in Lucedale. Mrs. Price is a Village Alumnus. Rev. John Walker is the Pastor.

The Baptist Children's Village is favored and fortunate to have these young Christians choose our ministry for their missions emphasis this summer. The week has been evaluated as an outstanding success in every respect and represented a blessing to both Village children and participating Lucedale youth. Another reason why we are glad to be Baptist!

### The Village Summer Holiday:

Mrs. Claire Nowlin, who is the Director of the Village's Department of Social Service suggests that all friends of Village boys and girls be reminded of the nearness of the traditional summer "Vacation." For the reasons suggested in this space last month, we have long allowed children in our custody to visit for about 15 days in mid-summer in the private homes of Village friends and approved relatives. Many Mississippians have enjoyed opening their homes and the lives of their private families to Village guests during these holiday periods, and the village staff regards the contributions made by our holiday hosts significant in the development of each child's life.

In 1980, the summer holiday will begin on Saturday, July 19 and extend

### How To Place A Child:

The question asked of Village staff most frequently, second only to "How many children do you now have?", relates to how one arranges to obtain Village services for a child in need of placement. The Village staff believes that question should be asked frequently, because it relates to the basic reason for our existence and is consequently one of the most important questions which may be raised concerning Baptist child care in Mississippi. In recognition of its importance, we try to publicize a summary, but factual, answer to the question at regular intervals, including public speaking engagements, through correspondence, and in this space, at least once each year.

At The Baptist Children's Village, and for all of its locations and facilities, our Department of Social Service handles all matters connected with or related to the admission of boys and girls to Village custodial care or the extending of any Village service or ministry to a child or a family in need of our assistance. Mrs. Claire Nowlin, ACSW, as Director of our Department of Social Service, represents the individual who should be contacted for the quickest and most efficient service. Since Mrs. Nowlin's office is a part of our central offices on our largest campus in Jackson, she may be addressed at Box 11308, Jackson, 39213 or telephoned in Jackson at 922-2242. After Mrs. Nowlin has been contacted by the party or parties interested in obtaining placement or other service for a child or his family, she assigns the case to a Village social caseworker on her staff who immediately commences to work with the family toward placement of the child or, in the alternative, some other service or ministry which develops to be more fitting.

to Sunday, August 3. Any home desiring to serve as a host to one or more Village children should quickly contact Mrs. Claire Nowlin, The Baptist Children's Village at Box 11308, Jackson, Mississippi, 39213 or by telephoning Jackson at 922-2242. Homes and families who have never entertained a Village child on any previous holiday will be asked to furnish references, including the endorsement of a local Baptist pastor. Anyone interested in entertaining a Village child who lives at one of our North Mississippi facilities may, if he wishes, contact Mrs. Rebecca Rhodes, resident social caseworker on the Farrow Manor campus at Box 168, Independence, Mississippi 38638 or telephone No. 233-2155 in Independence.

The Village obtains both physical and legal custody of the children placed in our care, with that custody being assigned, in a few instances, voluntarily, by the adult member of the natural family having legal custody, and with the legal custody being assigned in many instances by order of a local court of competent jurisdiction. The Village insists that natural parents, if they survive, be involved in the in-take study, the admission process, and all facets of the Village's custodial ministry, because the children's Village is a family-oriented child care agency, pursuing and endorsing the re-uniting of the natural family in each case, as its primary assignment and its highest ideal. Every application for admission, including those involving court-ordered legal custody, must be endorsed by a Southern Baptist church in the community of the child's natural home, over the signature of the pastor of that church. Such endorsement does not obligate the church or its pastor, financially or otherwise, in the care and custody of the child being admitted.

In summary, any individual or group interested in the possible admission of a boy or girl to The Children's Village should first contact Mrs. Claire Nowlin, or someone authorized to speak for her in our Jackson offices. From that point forward, a Village social caseworker will do all the work for you.

### Presenting Our Staff

Robert B. "Bob" Catlett, left, Recreational Director, Jackson campus since October, 1977.

Mamie G. Sims, Housemother, right, Jackson Campus since October, 1978.

### News From The Children

Again in 1980, our friends at Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson opened their hearts, along with the doors to Vacation Bible School for many boys and girls from the Village's Jackson campus. 85 Village children joined other Calvary children for a week of fun and learning, beginning June 2. In keeping with the custom, Calvary's VBS culminated with a family picnic on the closing Friday, which was attended, not only by Village children participating in Vacation Bible School, but by many houseparents, social caseworkers and others from the Village's Jackson staff.

Ms. Sara Lee of the Calvary staff was the VBS Director and Dr. Joe H. Tuten, the Pastor, served as the Superintendent. Several Village young people, including Sean Milner, Fred Herrington and Dede Boyanton worked with the faculty and Bible School staff during the week. Misses Dianne Dunlap and Gail Griffin, two of the student summer missionaries assigned to The Baptist Children's Village, also taught in the Bible School.

Kaylyn Hillhouse and Ricky Conlee from our Jackson campus were recently selected as "Best Campers" during the week of attendance at a Nature Camp at Holmes County State Park. The camp was sponsored, and Village young people were enabled to attend and participate through the courtesy of Garden Club of Mississippi, Inc.

Staff representatives from The Baptist Children's Village, under the leadership of Annette Hitt, our Christian Education Director, are participating, with other Mississippi Baptist leaders, at Camp Garaywa, near Clinton, in a summer of focus and emphasis upon State Missions. Through arrangements made by Marjean Patterson, State WMU Director and D. P. Smith, Camp Director, Mrs. Hitt and several other Village staff leaders of her choice speak to G. A.'s and Asteens each Monday evening during the summer, on the topic, "Children Are Missions, Too". The Village is informed that more than 2,000 different Mississippi girls will hear its message by the conclusion of the current Camp Garaywa season, and we are grateful to the State WMU leadership of Camp

Garaywa for affording this coveted and unusual opportunity to represent the emphasis upon State Mission at Camp Garaywa this summer.

We thank Hickory Grove Baptist Church at Poagville, and its Pastor, Rev. Lester McMullen for a recent gift of blankets to the boys and girls who make their homes on the Village's Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County. Through the courtesy and generosity of the church, every child and every staff member on the Farrow Manor Campus received a new blanket, and, in addition, the children were presented with decorative Indian blankets designed for construction of a Teepee. The Village is grateful to these Hickory Grove friends for thinking of the cold winter nights ahead for our children during these hot summer days when time remains to do something about winter nights. Every Village child residing on the Farrow Manor Campus receives a birthday gift each year from the membership of this church.

A metal building, affording badly-needed storage space, together with a supply of recreational equipment has been contributed to the Village's Farrow Manor Campus by East Corinth Baptist Church in Corinth. So many Christian friends in the general, North Mississippi area continue to manifest their interest in and loyal support of the Village's child care ministry through gifts which are helping us provide the sort of child care ministry we all prefer on our "country life campus" and we are humbly grateful.

On Saturday, June 28, a group of energetic and compassionate men from Alcorn Baptist Association, under leadership of Mr. Leon Barnes of Corinth, our Village Associational representative in that Association, traveled to our Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County, and installed swing sets and basketball goals for the use and enjoyment of the children. The materials used in the construction of this equipment, and the labor required for its construction was donated by Morris Brothers of Corinth who built the equipment.

This same group, under the leadership of Mr. Barnes had already contributed more than \$450.00 in cash, designated for Village use in providing recreational equipment for the Farrow Manor Campus — all in response to a published appeal for help with recreational equipment, which was published in this space, several months ago.



## Forever

"The Lord is my Shepherd,  
My soul he has bought.  
I shall not want."  
Oh, wondrous thought!  
"He maketh me to lie down  
In green pastures" to feed,  
"He leadeth me beside the still waters."  
He supplieth my need.

"He restoreth my soul!"  
From the Enemy's hand.  
"He leadeth me in the paths  
Of righteousness" grand  
"For His name's sake"  
I ever shall stand  
In that Celestial Band.

"Yea, tho' I walk through the valley  
Of the shadow of death  
I will fear no evil!"  
I shall brave the conquest.  
"For Thou art with me  
Thy rod and Thy staff  
They comfort me" always,  
Through storm and through chaff.

"Thou preparest a table before me  
In the presence of mine enemies"  
Thou feedest me.  
"Thou anointest my head"  
Thou hastest me  
"With oil; my cup runneth over."

"Surely goodness and mercy  
Shall follow me  
All the days of my life."  
Thou blesseth me  
"And I will dwell" serenely  
"In the house of the Lord forever."  
—Ruby Cruthirds  
Pascagoula

## Worry

Worry is a poison,  
Deadly as can be.  
Jesus is the antidote,  
Prescribed for you and me.

Worry is a question,  
A probing, searching quest.  
Jesus is the answer  
That gives us peace and rest.

Worry is a hunger  
That gnaws the human soul.  
Jesus is the Bread of Life,  
Nutritious, good, and whole.

Worry is an enemy,  
Destroying from within.  
Jesus is our Maker,  
Our Defender, and our Friend.

Worry is a sin;  
Its wages will not cease.  
Jesus is our Saviour,  
Our Redeemer, Prince of Peace.

—Vera Verdel  
Kosciusko  
—A. G. A. G. A. S. I.

## For The Record



THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF THE FOREST CHURCH honored the Caraway Bible Study Group at the general meeting, held June 11, at the church. The church's W.M.U. was organized in 1877. This group was named in honor of Mrs. W. C. Caraway, now deceased, who was a charter member of the organization. The members were recognized for "building a traditional Baptist foundation for future generations."

Senior members, seated left to right are: Mrs. Eley Calhoun, present group leader and past WMU director; Mrs. Stanley Buchanan, member who has served as leader for the Pearl Caldwell Business Women's group; Mrs. C. P. Stegall, secretary of the Caraway group; and Mrs. B. M. Breland, who was named WMU Woman of the Year. Standing, from left, are: Mrs. Kermit Reynolds, leaders of the Lois Henderson Group; Mrs. Wyatt Meseles, member of the Lois Henderson Group; Mrs. Jewel Smith, W.M.U. director; and Mrs. Lawrence Jones, representing the Martha Marler Mission Action Group.



West Corinth Church, Corinth, children and youth participated in the State Bible Drill at West Point. They are: (front row, left to right) Rozanne Pratt, Denise Hughes, Ashley Calvery, Brett Campbell, Karen Thompson; (second row) Renae Baker, Ann Barnes, Bonnie Franks, Brad Campbell, Kevin Cooley; (back row) Mrs. C. L. Putt, Bible Drill leader.

In the children's division, Denise Hughes, Brett Campbell, Renae Baker, and Brad Campbell achieved superior ratings. Ashley Calvery rated excellent, and Karen Thompson received state participant rating.

In the youth division Rozanne Pratt, Ann Barnes, Bonnie Franks and Kevin Cooley each rated superior. Kevin, Bonnie, and Rozanne qualified to participate in the Selection Tournament in Jackson, where Kevin earned the honor of attending a five-day youth conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Pass Christian, Miss.

Mrs. Putt, who coached the group in their work, has been leading Bible drill students for more than 26 years.

East End, Columbus, has voted to build a new sanctuary on the site of its old parsonage. W. M. Daves is pastor.

Lake Harbor Church, Rankin County, sent its youth to Glorieta, N.M., for Youth Week, May 31-June 6. Sunday night, June 7, the young people were in charge of the worship service at Lake Harbor and shared their experiences. The pastor, Bill Stout, and his wife accompanied the group to Glorieta.

First, Woolmarket is progressing with plans for a new mission on Hudson Krone Road. Many of the members as well as the pastor, Russell Naron, have been active in making the plans necessary for locating a mobile chapel on the site.

## Wheeler Grove Has Teen College

Wheeler Grove Baptist Church, Corinth, held Teen College for its young people in conjunction with the church's Vacation Bible School, June 9-13.

Directed by Gregg Thomas, associate pastor and youth director, Teen College enrolled 34 with average attendance of 27. Assisted by Jerry Harville, Thomas taught the Book of Ezra, plus one on self-esteem.

After the last session on Friday night, an ice cream party and youth fellowship was held in the church gym. Youths later received diplomas in church. Thomas said several prospective members have begun attending as a result of Teen College.

He plans to begin weeknight Bible study in homes shortly and the church will hold a "Super Summer" youth retreat in August.

The whole VBS enrolled 172.

## Cason Breaks Record

Cason Church, Monroe Association has broken another record, says its pastor, James Rutledge. Cason held its VBS June 15-22 with an enrollment of 429 for the six-night school. Averaging 300 each night beginning at 8:30 and dismissing at 8:45 p.m., Cason broke its previous enrollment of 401 of last year.

Cason, a rural church, has a Sunday School attendance average of 275, with 335 on roll. Children's church averages 160 weekly, due to the church's four buses. Rutledge said, "We will not be content giving God a half-way program." Twelve decisions for Christ were made during this VBS.

## Devotional What Makes A Nation Great?

By Wayne O. Burkes, Pastor, Bolton Church,  
and Member, Mississippi State Senate

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

In perilous circumstances such as our nation finds itself in today, it is natural that people would have a concern about the ever-present external threat of war. Freedom from aggression is a justifiable concern. However, as historians have pointed out, great nations do not usually fall by external aggression; they first erode and decay inwardly, so that like rotten fruit, they fall of themselves.

Every nation yearns for freedom, but too often a nation's own self-indulgence precludes the possibility of freedom. I speak of the trend in our nation of pleasure without conscience, wealth without work, business without morality, politics without principle, and worship without sacrifice. I believe personally that there is a strong relationship between a strong, prosperous nation and the faith and righteousness of its people.

The home is the rock foundation of civilization. No nation will rise above its homes, and no nation will long endure when the family unit is weakened or destroyed. If we accept the truth of these statements, then we must conclude that the American family has serious problems. Far too many children are growing up without strong parental guidance and spiritual influence, and are allowed to roam freely.

One church leader has wisely said, "No other success can compensate for failure in the home." If our nation is to endure, then the home must be safeguarded, strengthened, and restored to its rightful importance.

When our forefathers had won their independence in 1776, they drafted the Constitution of the United States, which opens with this preamble: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

I have great faith in America and its people. We live in a great land. If we live and work so as to enjoy the approval of a Divine Providence, we will endure as a nation. Without God's help, we cannot long endure.

Today many feel that we face a crisis situation. There is first of all a spiritual crisis among our people. In our quest for material things, we have forgotten God. There is a crisis for competent, honest, and moral leadership in government at every level. There is an economic and political crisis, where our basic freedoms stand in jeopardy because of a departure from fundamental principles. We must return to these basic principles if our free nation is to survive.

In the words of Thomas Paine, "These are the times that try men's souls." May God bless us to be equal to the task.

## State Transportation Aid Survives High Court Test

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP) — Over the objection of only one justice, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear a challenge to a Pennsylvania law providing free transportation to nonpublic school children.

By dismissing an appeal by the McKeesport Area School District against the eight-year-old law, the high court let stand the principle that providing transportation to and from parochial schools does not violate the no establishment of religion clause of the First Amendment.

The suit against the Pennsylvania Department of Education by local McKeesport school officials marked the second unsuccessful challenge to the statute, the other coming just a year ago.

The Pennsylvania law also provides for transporting parochial pupils on field trips, a practice declared unconstitutional in a 1977 Ohio case. That provision was not struck down in the Pennsylvania case, the court explained, because it had not been challenged in lower court proceedings.

## Uniform Lesson

### The Fall of Jerusalem

By Jack Glaze, Director,  
Division of Religion, Mississippi College

II Kings 24:18; 25:1, 2-12  
During July and August the Uniform Series of lessons will continue the study of nearly 300 years (722-400 B.C.) of Old Testament history. Following the unsuccessful reforms of Hezekiah (715-687 B.C.) and Josiah (640-609 B.C.), Judah entered the tragic moment of rebellion and national destruction (609-586 B.C.). Then came the dark hour of exile (586-539 B.C.), and once again God's guiding hand in history led a remnant back to the beloved promised land (539 B.C.).

Through these difficult years prophetic voices resolutely condemned sin and the superficial popular theology that claimed God's eternal protection of Jerusalem. The moral requirements of covenant obedience were shown to be essential for national existence. Sin broke the covenant bond and renewal could only come through repentance and compliance with divinely revealed truth.

The darker the hour the more men of faith tenaciously clung to the eternal promises of God and at the same time saw more clearly the nature of both God's justice and mercy. Because prophetic voices faced the theological and practical problems of national destruction prior to the event, the faith of Israel arose from the ashes of destruction, and suffering was seen as a purifying agency potentially redemptive in nature. From Babylon God delivered his people and again in their cherished homeland they faced the challenge of rebuilding the shattered nation. During each step of the way God sent his messengers to remind the people of the essential personal covenant relationship that so easily slipped into external formality.

Lesson Background: King Josiah (640-609 B.C.) unsuccessfully attempted to lead Judah in a religious reform. Jeremiah (626-580 B.C.) apparently gave his initial support; however, it appears that he became disenchanted with the superficial popular results. In 612 B.C. Babylon conquered Nineveh (Assyria) and a new international power appeared on the scene (612-539 B.C.). In 609 B.C. the good King Josiah was killed in battle as he unsuccessfully attempted to stop the northern advance of the Egyptian army under Neco II (610-594 B.C.).

Jehoaiah (3 months, 609 B.C.),

Josiah's younger son, became king and promptly was removed by the retreating Egyptian Pharaoh.

Jehoiakim (609-598 B.C.), Josiah's older son, became a puppet king subservient to Egypt. Some few years later he became a vassal to Nebuchadnezzar (Babylonia) only to change his allegiance back to Egypt (600 B.C.), and provoked a second Babylonian invasion of Palestine.

Jehoiakim died just prior to the attack on Jerusalem and Jehoiakin (3 months, 597 B.C.), his son, reigned during the siege. Upon surrender, Jehoiakin was taken prisoner to Babylon along with many leading citizens (Ezekiel among the group), and Zedekiah (597-587 B.C.), son of Josiah, was placed on the throne as a vassal to Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah revolted in 588 B.C. and once more Judah became the victim of the Babylonian wrath.

In 587 B.C. Jerusalem was besieged and in 586 B.C. the city and the Temple were completely destroyed. Once again deportation to Babylon was the fate of the principle survivors. Nevertheless, from the ranks of the defeated, decimated and chastened nation came anew the vision of faith and hope in God's purposefulness in history both yesterday, today and forever.

#### LESSON OUTLINE

##### I. Sin and Rebellion (24:18-20)

The destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple forms the climax towards which the author (historian) of Kings moves. His viewpoint is that of Deuteronomy (e.g. Deut. 28) with blessings upon those who obey God's commandments, and punishment for disobedience. Just as in the case of Samaria (II Kings 17-18, 722 B.C.), sin (v. 19) brings its ultimate retribution. The historian is more concerned with the theological interpretation of the events (history) than he is with a detailed record of the tragic events themselves.

Zedekiah was a brother of Jehoahaz, an uncle of Jehoiakin. He evidenced in his life the continuing struggle between the pro-Egyptian and pro-Babylonian parties in Judah and was totally inadequate for the task he faced. He was a puppet king in conflict with himself and those about him. Jeremiah 37 indicates something of his struggle as secretly he sends for the prophet (37:17) and yet publicly he

continued in his sin and foolish pro-Egyptian policy. The consequence of the long years of moral rebellion led to the judgment of God on Jerusalem and Judah (24:20).

##### II. Siege and Destruction (25:1-4)

In late December (25:1-4) of 588 B.C. the 19 month siege of Jerusalem began. The Bible continually stresses the connection between privilege and responsibility and the tragic consequences of sin. God is sovereign Lord of history and maintains ultimate control over men and nations. The historian vividly notes that prolonged moral rebellion and political intrigue resulted in the final loss of freedom and corresponding hunger in the city (25:3). The famine was first spiritual and then physical!

The first hint of defeat came as the king and the "men of war" sought to escape (25:4). They fled eastward only to be captured on the plains of Jericho. The king was taken to the Babylonian headquarters, Riblah, and there sentenced (25:6-7).

##### III. Defeat and Exile (25:8-12)

A month after the flight of the King, Jerusalem finally fell to the Babylonian captain, Nebuzaradan. The city was razed and the Temple plundered and destroyed (Kings 25:13-17, Jer. 52). Hostages who were taken to Nebuchadnezzar from the priesthood, officialdom, and prominent people at large were promptly executed (25:18-21). Once again the Babylonians employed their brutal policy of elimination and deportation, leaving only "the poor of the land" or farm laborers (25:11-12).

The official history ends (v. 21); however, an appendix gives details of subsequent events in Palestine (25:22-26), and finally the optimistic note (v. 27-30) of Jehoiakin's favorable treatment in Babylon. Judah, not God, had failed!

If the sovereign Lord of history was able to preserve a royal descendant of the line of David even in exile, would He not be able to restore an obedient remnant of his people to their homeland and service in His kingdom?

#### Lesson Applied

Nations, as well as individuals, stand under divine judgment. Practices and policies of leaders are extremely influential in the internal structure and welfare of a nation. Pray that the lessons of history may be constructively applied today in the face of our collective needs.

## Life and Work Lesson Following Christ

By Bobby Perry, Pastor  
First Church, Moss Point  
John 1:40-42; Luke 5:1-11

For the next quarter we will be studying "Peter—the Man and His Letters." The study has a fourfold objective: (1) to gain a better understanding of Peter himself as a growing disciple; (2) to understand better his two epistles; (3) to gain for ourselves a growing experience as followers of Christ; and (4) to make a deeper commitment to fulfilling our calling as God's people. You can see that this has the potential for an exciting quarter of study.

Simon Peter is one of the more interesting personalities in the New Testament. Most of us identify with him, since we are so much like him. We can identify with his perplexity and his endeavor to overcome it. And we are heartened as we see his triumph in Christ, which holds promise for us.

Thus this look at "Peter—a Growing Disciple" is not simply a study of a personality who lived almost two thousand years ago. Rather, it is a study of ourselves. Outward styles of life between the two periods differ. But the inward problems and needs are the same. By viewing ourselves in Peter's place we not only understand him but we also learn from him how to cope with our needs.

#### I. A Significant Meeting (John 1:40-42)

Peter's initial meeting with Jesus was more than an average event at that moment. The disciple John's account of it is pregnant with excitement, for it involved the messianic hope of the Jews. Yet, only Jesus himself saw at the moment what the future held for this association. But from the perspective of time we too can see that it was a significant confrontation. It was an encounter which set in motion forces the result of which produced one of the giants of the early church. The silhouette of this initial encounter has spanned the centuries to challenge us in our personal growth as disciples of our Lord.

Verse 40: "One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother."

John noted that one of the two who left the Baptist to follow Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. By the time this Gospel was written, Simon Peter was known throughout the Christian community. Hence this identification of Andrew. The other person

was most likely John, the author of the last Gospel. The author refrains from using his own name, but most likely was the disciple "whom Jesus loved."

Verse 41-42a: "He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, we have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus."

"First" means that the very first thing Andrew did was to find "his own brother." Such good news could not wait! "Findeth" indicates that he had to search for Peter in the crowd congregated to hear John preach.

"And he brought him to Jesus." This indicates that Andrew may have had to overcome some reluctance on his brother's part, but he persisted until the response was positive. Persistence is the key to successful evangelism.

#### II. A Sense of Unworthiness (Luke 5:1-10a)

From the above narrative in the Gospel of John we know that Peter and Andrew—and by implication, James and John—had previously believed in Jesus as the Christ. At this point, his disciples probably also included Philip and Nathanael (see John 1:43-51) and perhaps others.

However, these two sets of brothers were partners in the fishing business. Apparently they had gone back to their trade. It was early in Jesus' Galilean campaign that the event in the present passage took place.

Wherever Jesus appeared, throngs came "to hear the Word of God." At this particular moment He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret (also called Sea of Galilee and Sea of Tiberias). The people so crowded Him that He used the boat of Simon for a pulpit.

When Jesus had finished teaching, He told Simon to launch out into the deep water where they were to let down the net for a catch of fish.

In verses 5-6, we note that both sides of Simon's nature are seen in this incident: objection and obedience. It is understandable that he would object. After all, what could a carpenter tell an experienced fisherman about fishing? Also, the best time for fishing was at night and near the shore. However, Simon obeyed. Probably he expected no success. But to his amazement the catch was so great that the net "broke."

Later on, in the book of John, a net overloaded with fish does not break. The fisherman's net illustrates a truth. At this point there is no net that can

hold the fish for the simple reason that He has not yet died and risen from the dead—that is the Gospel. The "net" which will hold fish must be one that rests upon the death and resurrection of Christ—and there had been no death and resurrection. The net broke. After His death and resurrection, He told them how to fish and the net did not break (John 21:1-11).

In the verses that follow we note that the miracle of fishes impressed all who saw it, but none so deeply as Simon Peter. We should learn from this experience not to question the Lord's Word. The very essence of faith is to accept by faith that which we cannot see with our natural eyes or prove by human reason alone.

#### III. A Stupendous Challenge (Luke 5:10b-11)

While the men still marveled over the miracle, they heard even more challenging words from Jesus. He had shown them his power over natural things. Now he called them to experience it in a spiritual adventure. "...from henceforth thou shalt catch men" (verse 10b).

Although this statement was directed to Simon, it is evident that it involved Andrew, James, and John.

Jesus never worked miracles upon demand or as an insignificant display of power. He did so with spiritual purpose in mind. In this matter it was to show Simon and his associates they could have the power to perform a higher service. Prior to this time they had caught fish to meet physical need. Now their service would involve the spiritual.

Verse eleven tells us "And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him."

The Lord calls certain ones to leave their regular vocations to follow him in a complete commitment to his work. This was true of these four. They left their former vocation for a new challenge.

"Forsook all" should not be read as being of little consequence. It was an act of full commitment with no guarantee as to the source of their next meal. Natural minds call it foolish; spiritual minds call it faith. With one decisive stroke of the will they cut their ties with the past and embarked upon a new phase of life. Henceforth, they would move out into the deep currents of human need, and let down the net of the gospel to catch people for Christ.